THE ROLE OF MICROSTRUCTURE, WITH REFERENCE TO ENGLISH AND NORTHERN SOTHO – ENGLISH DICTIONARIES: A COMPARATIVE LEXICOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

MASTER OF ARTS
IN
AFRICAN LANGUAGES

MMETE BENJAMIN MOHLALA
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BY

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DATE   :   AUGUST 2010

DECLARATION

I, MMETE BENJAMIN MOHLALA, hereby declare that the dissertation, **THE ROLE OF MICROSTRUCTURE, WITH REFERENCE TO ENGLISH AND NORTHERN SOTHO – ENGLISH DICTIONARIES: A COMPARATIVE LEXICOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS**, is my own work and that all sources that I have used or quoted have, to the best of my knowledge, been acknowledged by means of complete references.

_____   _____

SIGNATURE   **DATE**

DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my late parents, my wife Mmaserishane and our children.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my sincere gratitudes to the following people:

My supervisor, Prof. R.N. Madadzhe for his patience and guidance in this study, may the Lord be with you.

Mr. M.C Mphahlele for his encouragement and guidance.

Ms. M Mothiba, thanks for your willingness to assist me whenever there was a need.

To my colleague Mr. E Ranape: "Thanks very much for extending a helping hand".

To Miss T.P Mhlongo, who typed this work I say to you: "I appreciate your help".

My wife and children who supported and encouraged me during trying times.

Above all, I thank God the Almighty for giving me life.

ABSTRACT

This study is a comparative analysis of two English monolingual dictionaries and two Northern Sotho – English bilingual dictionaries, namely *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1995) and *Sesotho Sa Leboa – English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006).

The above four dictionaries are compared in terms of cross – referencing, pronunciation and parts of speech. The microstructure of certain dictionaries does not address most problems that dictionary users have. It is in the microstructure, where dictionary users learn that certain lemmata are synonymous, polysemous in sense, antonyms or that a lemma has two alternative spellings, and that both spelling are acceptable. This is done through cross – referencing. Dictionary users need to be guided on how lemmata are pronounced, otherwise the meaning of lemmata become distorted. The other problem which the microstructure has to deal with, is to indicate the type of parts of speech lemmata are.

This research is an attempt to make lexicographers aware of the importance of including the above aspects in the microstructure of their dictionaries.

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CHAPTER ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

There are different types of dictionaries, namely comprehensive, standard, pedagogical, special, monolingual, bilingual, diachronic, etymological and synchronic dictionaries. All these dictionaries are aimed at different users and they contain different information. This study focuses on the following types: monolingual and bilingual dictionaries.

Perhaps we first have to answer the following question: what is a dictionary? Different scholars define the word "dictionary" in more or less the same way. *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006:398) defines a dictionary as a book that lists the words of a language in alphabetical order and gives their meaning, or their equivalent in a different language.

Kepfer (1984:11) on the other hand is of the view that a dictionary is

> A reference book containing the words of a language or language variety, usually alphabetically arranged, with information on words' form, pronunciation, functions, meanings and idiomatic uses.

Collins Dictionary of the English Language (1986:219) pinpoints the reference function of the dictionary by defining it as

> A reference book that consists of an alphabetical list of words with their meanings and parts of speech, and often a guide to accepted pronunciation and syllabification, irregular inflections of words, derived words of different parts of speech, and etymologies.

The *Macquarie Dictionary* (1997:598), however has this to say with regard to what a dictionary is

> A book containing a selection of the words of a language, usually arranged alphabetically, with explanation of their meanings, pronunciations, etymologies, and other information concerning them, expressed either in the same or in another language.

The above definitions have many things in common. They regard a dictionary as a reference book with words which are arranged alphabetically, with the meaning of these words or their translation equivalents. A dictionary is therefore regarded as a very important reference book which should aim at addressing the needs of users. Users should find a dictionary to be user-friendly.

A dictionary is divided into three main divisions, namely the front matter, the central list and the back matter. The central list is the most important of the three divisions. This is the compulsory section of a dictionary. This section is sometimes referred to as the dictionary proper. The central list is further sub-divided into the macrostructure and the microstructure.

The macrostructure and the microstructure cannot be divorced from each other. The microstructure is the addresser of the macrostructure and the macrostructure is the addressee of the microstructure. The macrostructure is that position of a dictionary where lemmata that are usually written in alphabetical order, are found.

The microstructure is found on the right hand side of the macrostructure on a dictionary page. It succeeds the macrostructure. It consists of parts of speech, pronunciation, definitions, translation equivalents, usage examples, cross-reference and structural markers. Whenever dictionary users consult dictionaries for meaning of words, they look up to the microstructure. The microstructure is the most important section of dictionaries, and it has a role whose importance cannot be overemphasised.

Hartmann and Gregory (1998:94) define microstructure as

> The internal design of a reference unit. In contrast to the overall word-list (macrostructure), the microstructure provides detailed information about the headword, with comments on its formal and semantic properties (spelling, pronunciation, grammar, definition, usage, etymology).

Yong and Peng (2007:102) agree with Hartmann and Gregory. They maintain that:

> The microstructure of the dictionary specifies the way the lemma articles are composed. The lemma article starts with the head word, which is followed by its orthographical, phonological, morphological, syntactical, pragmatic and, most important of all, semantic descriptions.

The microstructure has to be presented in such a manner that it addresses fully the needs of dictionary users. The microstructure must make the dictionary to be a real reference book. If a lemma has more than one translation equivalent which are synonymous, or which are just semantically related or a lemma has other lemmata which are synonyms, the dictionary user has to be informed by the way the microstructure is presented.

1.2 BACKGROUND TO THE PROBLEM

Most dictionaries do not comply properly with how dictionaries should be compiled. The microstructure of some of the dictionaries is not well presented and properly treated, and as such dictionary users' problems are left unsolved. When a dictionary user consults a dictionary, he should get solutions to his problems.

Cross-referencing appears to be one of the major problems most dictionaries have. Lexical, sub-lexical and multi-lexical items that are related to each other, have to be treated in the microstructure of dictionaries in such a manner that they should show that they are synonyms, partial synonyms or antonyms. This is done, among others, by means of cross-referencing.

Yong and Peng (2007:100) highlight the importance of cross-referencing by saying:

> Cross-references have the function of saving space, avoiding unnecessary repetition of information at different places, and guiding the user to where further relevant information is provided, thus ensuring the maximum utility of space and information provided in the dictionary.

In *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996) the following words which are synonymous are treated in the following manner:

> begin thoma; v.i. thomega (1996:192)
>
> commence thoma (1996:204)
>
> start thoma (1996:310)

The treatment of the above words: begin, commence and start, do not show that they are synonymous. This creates more problems to dictionary users. The use of cross-referencing should have applied in this regard. Perhaps the most appropriate way to present these synonyms in a bilingual dictionary would be:

> begin – v. thoma; thomiša; go thomiša
>
> commence – BONA begin
>
> start – BONA begin

In this way, dictionary users will know that: **begin**, **commence** and **start** are synonyms which can substitute each other in all respect without changing the meaning. It becomes queer if each of these words receives a comprehensive treatment as it is the case with some of the dictionaries, including the one cited in the above example. This is unacceptable.

The *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006) also does not treat synonym lemmata properly. The question of cross-reference does not receive much attention as illustrated by the examples below:

> aerodrome n. Brit. a small airport or airfield (2006:21).
>
> airfield n. an area of land set aside for the takeoff, landing,
>
>   and maintenance of aircraft (2006:28).
>
> airport n. a complex for civil aircraft comprising runways,
>
>   hangard, and passenger facilities (2006:29).

The above presentation of these synonym lemmata from the above dictionary is also not acceptable. There is no indication whatsoever that these lemmata are synonyms. The use of cross-referencing would assist users to realize that these words are synonymous.

The researcher's observation is that not all dictionaries treat synonym lemmata in the correct manner. The research will endevour to compare these dictionaries in terms of the most important aspect of meta-lexicography, which is cross-referencing. Cross-referencing is important because it is a textual approach to a dictionary which compilers can only ignore at their peril.

Another example where the synonym lemmata are not well presented, is in *Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006) as illustrated below:

> koloi n. car, motor car; vehicle   (2006:37)
> mmotoro n. car; motor car; vehicle (2006:60)
> sefatanaga n. motor car.   (2006:93)

The presentation of these lemmata is misleading. There is no indication that these words are related. It is also not economic to treat them this way. There is no way in which the user can know that these words: **koloi**, **mmotoro** and **sefatanaga** mean one and the same thing.

According to Gouws (1999:24) where two variants or synonyms have to be included in a dictionary, the full treatment will only be given in the article of one these lemmata. The other lemmata will have a treatment consisting mainly of the cross-reference to the lemma where the full treatment is given.

Van Sterkenburg (2003:207) argues that when an lexicographer did a good job, the user of the dictionary would feel that it included 'everything', everything the user reasonably might expect. The researcher strongly feels that the inclusion of parts of speech and also a guide to accepted pronunciation is what the dictionary user might expect. Contrary to this, some dictionaries do not include parts of speech and pronunciation that address the above aspects, and those that do not.

Parts of speech is one of the aspects of the comment on form. This includes among others, verbs, nouns, adjectives and so on. Pronunciation should be given only to headwords which are likely to cause problems to both the native speakers and other dictionary users. The *South African Concise Oxford Dictionary* (2002:381) concurs with the above argument when it indicates that "Pronunciation is not for ordinary, everyday words …"

There is no research done so far on the comparative analysis of the monolingual (English) and bilingual (English-Northern Sotho) dictionaries, with particular reference to the role of the microstructure. This study endevours to highlight important similarities and differences between the two types of dictionaries, and to make lexicographers aware of the important information that users require, which is often omitted.

1.3 AIM OF THE STUDY

The aim of this research is to investigate the role of microstructure of dictionaries. This is a comparative analysis of English and Northern Sotho - English dictionaries. The microstructure must be seen as the important reference unit of the dictionary, where users look up to have their problems solved. The important aspects that should receive attention in the microstructure have been discussed. The research endevours to answer the following questions:

- Is cross-referencing dealt with properly in these dictionaries?
- Is there a guide to accepted pronunciation?
- Is there any comment on form, namely parts of speech?

If all these questions are well answered, one would feel that these dictionaries include "everything" users might expect.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To indicate the impact of microstructure on dictionaries.
- To determine whether the microstructure of these dictionaries are presented in such a manner that it becomes a true reference unit of a dictionary.
- To establish a model that will make lexicographers aware that cross-reference, pronunciation and parts of speech are important, and that they should receive more attention.

1.5 RATIONALE

There has been no serious attempt with regard to the role of microstructure of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries. There is a gap as far as the comparative analysis of these dictionaries is concerned. This study tries to bridge this gap.

The lexicographic horizon will be broadened by this study. The evaluation of how cross-referencing is presented in these dictionaries will facilitate understanding to users that certain lemmata are related as synonyms. The treatment of pronunciation and parts of speech will make dictionaries true reference books. This study is undertaken to satisfy the above need.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study will be of great importance to both lexicographers and dictionary users as they will realize the important role that is played by the microstructure. This will help lexicographers to notice the gap that exists in the dictionaries under discussion, with regard to semantic properties of lemmata and the treatment of synonym lemmata.

Dictionary users will in future find dictionaries being user-friendly, because they will be written in such a way that the above aspects are properly dealt with in the microstructure.

1.7 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research, the qualitative research method has been used. This research seeks to make a comparative analysis of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries based on certain aspects. Creswell (1994:2) believes that the qualitative research method is "an enquiry process of understanding a social human problem, …". The Comparative Approach has been used in this study to compare English monolingual and English-Northern Sotho bilingual dictionaries.

1.7.1 COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

1.7.1.1 Primary Sources

The researcher consulted relevant people who are more knowledge in the field of lexicography to get information and guidance.

Consultation included six (6) lexicographers – three (3) from the Sesotho sa Leboa Dictionary unit, and three (3) other lexicographers from the Xitsonga National Lexicography unit at Tivumbeni Educational Multi-Purpose Centre in Tzaneen; Six (6) University lectures, four (4) from University of Limpopo, the other two (2) from university of Pretoria, and three (3) language practitioners from National Department of Education.

1.7.1.2 Secondary Sources

The researcher relied on information obtained from libraries, articles from various language journals, research papers such as dissertations and theses, and internet. The reason why these sources are used, is to make use of the information already gathered by other scholars and researchers on the topic.

1.8 SCOPE OF THE RESEARCH

Although reference has been made to other divisions of the dictionary, like the macrostructure, the research concentrates much on the role of the microstructure, with special attention to the treatment of cross-references, parts of speech and pronunciation. This study is the comparative analysis of the following monolingual and bilingual dictionaries: *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996) *and Sesotho sa Leboa / English Dictionary* (2005).

1.9 LITERATURE REVIEW

The main aim of the literature review, is to review the work done by other scholars on the topic of research.

1.9.1 Landau (2001)

Landan (2001:99) distinguishes between macrostructure and microstructure by saying

> Some linguists call the overall organization of the dictionary as determined by the headwords, the macrostructure of a dictionary and the organization of the information within each article the microstructure … Are definitions arranged by part-of-speech? Are definitions numbers used? … How are cross-references indicated?

From Landau's point of view, with regard to microstructure, one realises that the organization of the information within each article is key. This would include the treatment of parts of speech and also cross-referencing. These two, form part and parcel of this study. An indication has been made in this research as to whether the dictionaries under discussion satisfy what is suggested above.

1.9.2 Hartmann and Gregory (1998)

Hartmann and Gregory (1994:94) argue that:

> The microstructure provides detailed information about the headword, with comments on its formal and semantic properties (spelling, pronunciation, grammar, definition, usage, etymology).

It should be remembered that the microstructure is part of the internal design of a reference unit. Whenever a user looks up for a lemma in a dictionary, he already has a problem and he hopes that his problem will be addressed by that dictionary. The answer that he will get must satisfy most aspects, like pronunciation, grammar definition and usage. It is imperative that the microstructure must provide detailed information about the headwords.

Although Hartmann and Gregory emphasise that there has to be comments made on the formal and semantic properties of the headword, this research concentrated on grammar and pronunciation of headwords. Spelling, definition, usage and etymology have not received emphasis in this study.

1.9.3 Yong and Ping (2007)

Yong and Ping (2007:102) believe that "the microstructure of a dictionary specifies the way the lemma articles are composed", but according to them, semantic descriptions is the most important aspect. It is true that a semantic description of lemmata is key in the microstructure of a dictionary, but semantic description alone will not make the dictionary a complete reference book. In most cases, translation equivalents and definitions of lemmata alone in bilingual and monolingual dictionaries respectively, do not solve users' problem. Hence it is important that the microstructure should include more aspects, such as parts of speech, pronunciation of certain headwords and cross-reference.

This study has endevoured to compare these dictionaries in terms of the above aspects.

1.9.4 Jackson (2002)

According to Jackson (2002:26) the "microstructure of a dictionary refers to the arrangement of the information within the entries". He further maintains that the range and type of information within an entry will differ according to the headword, but will typically include some or all of the following:

- Spelling
- Pronunciation
- Inflections
- Word class
- Senses
- Definitions
- Examples
- Usage
- Run-ons
- Etymology

What is important as far as the treatment of lemmata is concerned, is that whatever information is included, must be well arranged, not haphazardly done, so that it addresses properly users' frustrations.

Jackson (2002:79) gives us how well the word *nest* is presented differently by Chambers and Concise Oxford Dictionary (COD 10) to illustrate what is meant by "the layout and organization of the individual entry".

> nest nest, n. a structure prepared for egg-laying, brooding, and nursing, or a shelter: a place of retread, resort, residence or lodgment: a den: a comfortable residence, a group of machine-guns in a position fortified or screened by sandbag or the like: a place where anything teems, prevails, or is fostered: the occupants of a nest, as a brood, a swarm, a gang: … (Chambers)

nest. n. 1 a structure or place made or chosen by a bird for laying eggs and sheltering its young. ►a place where an animal or insect breeds or shelters. ►a snug or secluded retreat. ►a bowlshaped object likened to a bird's nest. 2 a place filled with undesirable people or things: a nest of spies. 3 a set of similar objects of graduated sizes, fitting together for storage. .v.1 use or build a nest. … (COD 10).

What one notices in the above two entries from Chambers and COD 10 respectively is that they are the same in all respect except that words used are not the same. The information retrieved from Chambers is the same with that from COD 10. Almost all aspects that need to be treated in the microstructure, are dealt with.

An attempt has been made in this study with the comparative analysis of the selected dictionaries, to see how successful they are, in giving the microstructure of their dictionaries a better treat.

1.9.5 Ilson (1985)

In the English Language Teaching Documents (ELT Documents – 120: 16), Ilson makes a comparison between bilingual and monolingual learners' dictionaries. He writes that:

> Bilingual and monolingual learners' dictionaries do show systematic variations in their approach to the wordlist. In a monolingual, no attempt is made to cover the whole vocabulary, the assumption being that having mastered the most frequent words in the language the learner will graduate to a native speakers' dictionary. Bilinguals have generally a much more flexible approach to the wordlist, …

While we acknowledge that monolingual and bilingual dictionaries are not the same, but both of them are reference books that contain very useful information which addresses the users' problems, the dictionary, whether monolingual or bilingual, should treat lemmata fully to ensure that users benefit from them. It should be borne in mind that this study is focusing on the comparative analysis of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries, looking at the microstructure in particular.

Both monolingual and bilingual dictionaries are meant to be used by anyone who is interested in learning a particular language, whether as a native language or as a foreign language. It is wrong to conclude that bilingual dictionary is written for people who have the knowledge of the first language.

1.9.6 Gouws and Prinsloo (2005)

Cross-referencing is one of the aspects of the microstructure which this study will be discussing. Gouws and Prinsloo (2005:177) argue that:

> The system of cross-referencing, that is the mediostructure is a lexicographic device that can be used to establish relations between different components of a dictionary.

If there are synonym lemmata in a dictionary, not all of them are to be given a complete treatment, only the one which is frequently used is to receive treatment, the rest have to be cross-referenced. A lexicographer cross-refers the dictionary user from a cross-reference position to a cross-reference address. If cross-referencing is used, the user is able to realize the relationship between those cross-referenced lemmata.

1.9.7 Mongwe (2006)

Another aspect which will be treated in this study is pronunciation. How words are pronounced is very important. Mongwe (2006:55) has these to say with regard to pronunciation.

> Pronunciation is given only to lemmata which are likely to cause problems to both the native speakers and other users of a dictionary.

Most English monolingual dictionaries show pronunciation to all the entries in a dictionary. This allows time for dictionary users to learn the correct pronunciation unlike where pronunciation of only few entries is given.

1.10   ORGANISATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter one is an introductory chapter. It deals with aspects such as background to the study, aims, objectives, methodology and scope of research.

Chapter two focuses on literature reviews.

Chapter three handles the treatment of cross-referencing in dictionaries.

Chapter four analyses pronunciation and parts of speech as reflected in dictionaries.

Chapter five presents a summary of the study, findings and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The main aim of the literature reviews, is to review the work done by other scholars on the topic of research.

Some of the work which is related to this research has been reviewed in detail under this chapter. Literature review is important as it makes all arguments that are presented in the research to be understandable to whoever will read this research. The researcher will give few examples to illustrate his argument as apposed to the ones cited by other scholars.

2.2 Landau (2001)

Landan (2001:99) distinguishes between macrostructure and microstructure by saying

> Some linguists call the overall organization of the dictionary as determined by the headwords, the macrostructure of a dictionary and the organization of the information within each article the microstructure … Are definitions arranged by part-of-speech? Are definitions numbers used? … How are cross-references indicated?

From Landau's point of view, with regard to microstructure, one realises that the organization of the information within each article is key. This would include the treatment of parts of speech and also cross-referencing. These two, form part and parcel of this study. An indication has been made in this research as to whether the dictionaries under discussion satisfy what is suggested above.

According to Landau (2001), the microstructure of a dictionary, must among others provide definitions which are arranged by part of speech, definitions which are numbered, and that cross-references must be properly indicated. If the microstructure of a dictionary does not satisfy the above requirement, then it means that it is not well arranged and as such it becomes doubtful as to whether the very same dictionary will assist the user to solve his problems.

2.3 Hartmann and Gregory (1998)

Hartmann and Gregory (1994:94) argue that:

> The microstructure provides detailed information about the headword, with comments on its formal and semantic properties (spelling, pronunciation, grammar, definition, usage, etymology).

It should be remembered that the microstructure is part of the internal design of a reference unit. Whenever a user looks up for a lemma in a dictionary, he already has a problem and he hopes that his problem will be addressed by that dictionary. The answer that he will get must satisfy most aspects, like pronunciation, grammar definition and usage. It is imperative that the microstructure must provide detailed information about the headwords.

Although Hartmann and Gregory emphasise that there has to be comments made on the formal and semantic properties of the headword, this research has concentrated on grammar and pronunciation of headwords. Spelling, definition, usage and etymology did not receive emphasis in this study.

2.4 Yong and Ping (2007)

Yong and Ping (2007:102) believe that "the microstructure of a dictionary specifies the way the lemma articles are composed", but according to them, semantic descriptions is the most important aspect. It is true that semantic descriptions of lemmata are key in the microstructure of a dictionary, but semantic description alone will not make the dictionary a complete reference book. In most cases, translation equivalents and definitions of lemmata alone in bilingual and monolingual dictionaries respectively, do not solve users' problem. Hence it is important that the microstructure should include more aspects, such as parts of speech, pronunciation of certain headwords and cross-reference.

This study endevours to compare these dictionaries in terms of the above aspects.

It would be appreciated if in a dictionary, lexicographers included among other things comments on form, namely parts of speech. In most cases, when users consult dictionaries, they are more interested in the semantic aspect of lemmata. It is beneficial and rewarding for them to find more information about various lemmata, whether the lemma / headword is a verb, a noun, an objective, an adverb or whether it can be used as both a noun and an adjective. This information is necessary and requires that it be include in dictionaries.

An example of such a comment on form, is from *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006: 630). The lemma 'gi□en' is treated in the following manner:

> given / ɪgɪvn/ adj., prep., noun
> ▪ adj. [usually before noun] 1 already arranged: They were to meet at a given time and place. …
> ▪ prep. when you consider sth: Given his age, (= considering how old he is) he's remarkably active. …
> ▪ noun something that is accepted as true, for example when you are discussion sth or planning sth.

From the above entry, it becomes clear that the lemma 'given' can be used as both the adjective, preposition and noun. Clear examples of how the same word can be used differently are given. This will obviously assist the dictionary user to learn more.

2.5 Jackson (2002)

According to Jackson (2002:26) the "microstructure of a dictionary refers to the arrangement of the information within the entries". He further maintains that the range and type of information within an entry will differ according to the headword, but will typically include some or all of the following:

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> nest. n. 1 a structure or place made or chosen by a bird for laying eggs and sheltering its young. ►a place where an animal or insect breeds or shelters. ►a snug or secluded retreat. ►a bowlshaped object likened to a bird's nest. 2 a place filled with undesirable people or things: a nest of spies. 3 a set of similar objects of graduated sizes, fitting together for storage. .v.1 use or build a nest. … (COD 10).

What one notices in the above two entries from Chambers and COD 10 respectively is that they are the same in all respect except that words used are not the same. The information retrieved from Chambers is the same with that from COD 10. Almost all aspects that need to be treated in the microstructure, are dealt with.

An attempt has been made in this study with the comparative analysis of the selected dictionaries, to see how successful they are, in giving the microstructure of their dictionaries a better treat.

2.6 Ilson (1985)

In the English Language Teaching Documents (ELT Documents – 120: 16), Ilson makes a comparison between bilingual and monolingual learners' dictionaries. He writes that:

> Bilingual and monolingual learners' dictionaries do show systematic variations in their approach to the wordlist. In a monolingual, no attempt is made to cover the whole vocabulary, the assumption being that having mastered the most frequent words in the language the learner will graduate to a native speakers' dictionary. Bilinguals have generally a much more flexible approach to the wordlist, …

While we acknowledge that monolingual and bilingual dictionaries are not the same, but both of them are reference books that contain very useful information which addresses the users' problems, the dictionary, whether monolingual or bilingual, should treat lemmata fully to ensure that users benefit from them. It should be borne in mind that this study is focusing on the comparative analysis of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries, looking at the microstructure in particular.

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2.7 Gouws and Prinsloo (2005)

Cross-referencing is one of the aspects of the microstructure which this study will be discussing. Gouws and Prinsloo (2005:177) argue that:

> The system of cross-referencing, that is the mediostructure is a lexicographic device that can be used to establish relations between different components of a dictionary.

If there are synonym lemmata in a dictionary, not all of them are to be given a complete treatment, only the one which is frequently used is to receive treatment, the rest have to be cross-referenced. The lemmata in the dictionary and their meaning do not function independently from each other. There is cohesion between them. Most lexical items in a dictionary are related to each other as synonyms, partial synonyms, antonyms, and so forth.

The relationship between synonym lemmata is to be indicated in the microstructure of dictionaries through cross-referencing. Cross-referencing is a lexicographic procedure where the lexicographer refers the user from the reference position to the reference address. (Mphahlele, 2001: 77). Cross-referencing is done by means of reference entries such as **SEE, COMPARE, REFER, BONA** (NORTH SOTHO), **SIEN** (AFRIKAANS) and **arrows** ($\rightarrow$, $-$).

Normally what happens in cross-referencing is that a synonym lemma that is frequently used in the daily speech becomes the one that is comprehensively treated, either in the form of translation equivalent in the case of a bilingual dictionary in the form of description in the case of a monolingual dictionary.

The following Northern Sotho synonyms may be used as examples. **Mmotoro**; **Koloi** and **Sefatanaga** refer to one and the same thing namely a motor car. **Koloi** is the most frequently used lemma to refer to a motor car, and as such, in a dictionary, this lemma is the one which is supposed to be given a comprehensive treatment, which immotoro and sefatanaga should be cross-referenced.

The important of cross-referencing cannot be over-emphasised. It is used to save time, space and to avoid the unnecessary repetition of the information. If cross-referencing is used in dictionaries, the dictionary user is able to realise the relationship between the cross-referenced lemmata. In this way dictionary users learn more words in a short space of time.

2.8 Mongwe (2006)

Another aspect which has been treated in this study is pronunciation. How words are pronounced is very important. Mongwe (2006:55) has these to say with regard to pronunciation.

> Pronunciation is given only to lemmata which are likely to cause problems to both the native speakers and other users of a dictionary.

Most English monolingual dictionaries show pronunciation to all the entries in a dictionary. This allows time for dictionary users to learn the correct pronunciation unlike where pronunciation of only few entries is given.

The following entries from *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006) indicate how important it is at times to indicate the accepted way of pronouncing a lemma. Although they may look alike in form, their pronunciation differ. Let us consider these words:

coupon / `ku:p☐n; NAmE – pa:n; `kju:- / (p.336)

couplet / `k☐plət / noun two lines of poetry …(p.336)

courier / `k☐riə(r) / noun 1 a person or … (p.336)

court / k☐:t; NAmE k☐:rt / noun, verb … (p.3337)

courtesy / `kɜ:təsi; NAmE `kɜ:rt- / noun, adj. …(p.337)

The suggested way to the accepted form of pronunciation assists both the native and the non-native speakers of the language to pronounce these lemmata in the accepted manner. If there was no guide to the manner in which the above lemmata should be pronounced, dictionary users would find difficulties in pronouncing them. If one considers the fact that all the above five lemmata, have something in common, their first three letters of alphabet are the same namely "cou", one would think that they should be pronounced the same, and this is not the case. It is for this reason that it is imperative for the lexicographers to include in the microstructure of their dictionaries, the guide to the accepted form of pronounciation.

2.9 Louw (1991)

Louw (1991: 118) argues that lexicographers should indicate or give an explanation in the front matter of dictionaries, how cross-referencing is going to be done.

It is important for dictionary users to know well in advance how the dictionary is to be used. The reason being that without this information, the user will not be in a position to solve his problems. It has to be explained as to when the reference markers **SEE, REFER, COMPARE, ARROWS** (→, –) **BON**A (Northern Sotho) and **SIEN** (Afrikaans) are to be used. If this is provided in the front matter, the user will know the difference between complete synonyms, partial synonyms and antonyms.

2.10 CONCLUSION

It is rather difficult to make a comparative analysis of monolingual and bilingual dictionaries. Their microstructures cannot be treated exactly the same, because the explanations of lemmata in a monolingual dictionary, are comprehensive definitions, while we expect translation equivalents in a bilingual dictionary.

The two types of dictionaries share one thing in common, that is they both help in understanding a foreign language, but there can be little doubt that a bilingual dictionary makes fewer demands upon the user. With a monolingual, the user is forced to use the foreign language in order to understand it, and there is of course no guarantee that the definitions, examples or metalanguage notes are comprehensible.

The above literature review has been used as the basis of this study as a reference. The same methodologies used by other scholars will to a large extend be employed in this study, to make a comparative analysis of the microstructure of English dictionaries and North Sotho-English dictionaries, with particular reference to cross-referencing, parts of speech and pronunciation.

CHAPTER THREE

3. CROSS – REFERENCING

3.1 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to compare two English monolingual dictionaries with two English – Northern Sotho bilingual dictionaries, with regard to cross-referencing. They are: *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006) *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996) and *Sesotho sa Leboa-English Dictionary* (2005) respectively.

The focus has been on whether cross-referencing of synonym lemmata is well presented or not. If it is well done, the study has indicated, and if it is not well done, it has been indicated as such and an example of how it is supposed to be done has been given.

In the case of English monolingual dictionary, when a lemma has other lemmata as synonyms, it is expected that a comprehensive treatment be given only on the lemma which is frequently used in the language, and that other lemmata receive cross-referencing (Mphahlele: 2001). Let us look at the following words:

> environment
> setting
> surroundings
> background
> backdrop
> situation

These words are synonyms. If they were to be listed in a dictionary, not all of them would be given comprehensive treatment. The dictionary compiler would first determine which one of them is the most frequently used, and give it the comprehensive treatment in the form of definition and description. The other lemmata would be cross-referenced.

In bidirectional bilingual dictionaries where both languages are afforded the chance of being used as both source and as target languages, it is expected that meaning of lemmata be given in the form of translation equivalents. It will be unnecessary to have the same translation equivalents repeated. The following lemmata can be presented in the following way in a bilingual Northern Sotho-English dictionary:

> **Koloi** – SEE mmotoro
> **Mmotoro** – motorcar, car, vehicle
> **Sefatanaga** – SEE mmotoro

With regard to the above presentation, Gouws (1999: 24) says that where two variants or synonyms have to be included in a dictionary, the full treatment will only be given in the article of one these lemmata. The other lemmata will have a treatment which consists mainly of the cross-reference to the lemma where the full treatment is given. Although **mmotoro** is an adoptive, it is the most frequently used lemma as opposed to **koloi** and **sefatanaga**, hence it is comprehensively treated, while the other two are cross-referenced.

If in a dictionary, synonyms are treated in relation with other lexical items within a synonym pair, then it means that the dictionary will be seen as a true reference book which addresses the user's problems.

In most cases the reference markers **SEE** (English) **BONA** (Northern Sotho) or **SIEN** (Afrikaans) are used when cross-referencing lemmata which are synonymous; lemmata that can replace each other in many contexts without distorting the meaning. This is often referred to as complete cross-referencing.

On the other hand **REFER** and **COMPARE** are used as reference markers for lemmata that have meanings which are nearly related to each other or which are polysemous in sense, and these senses cannot replace each other in any context. Other dictionaries use **REFER** or **COMPARE** for antonyms.

What is important is that dictionaries must explain in the front matter how cross-referencing is going to be indicated.

3.2 *CONCISE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY* (2006) AND CROSS-REFERENCING

Concise Oxford English Dictionary (2006) is a monolingual English dictionary. It is an explanatory dictionary that records lemmata and their definitions in the same language.

Like any other well presented dictionary, in the front matter of this dictionary, there is a well written guide to the use of the dictionary. In this section we notice that for cross-referencing, the dictionary uses **Compare with** … and **another term for** … for lemmata with contrasting meanings and for synonym lemmata respectively.

From the Guide to the use of the dictionary, one realizes that there is obviously cross-referencing to synonymous lemmata, be it absolute synonyms, lemmata that are polysemous in sense and also antonyms. The reference entry **see** is also used in this dictionary. For the purpose of this study, examples of cross-referencing from this dictionary will be cited.

The following entries in the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006) show cross referencing of lemmata which are in one way or another related to one another. The reference entry used is **compare with** … .

> addendum / a d□nd□m / ■*n*. 2. Engineering the radial distance
> from the pitch circle of a cogwheel or wormwheel to the crests
> of the teeth or ridges. Compare with DEDENDUM   (p.15)

dedendum / dɪ dɛndəm / ▪*n.* Engineering the radial distance from the pitch circle of a cogwheel or wormwheel to the bottom of the tooth space or groove. Compare with ADDENDUM.   (p.374)

The above two lemmata, namely **addendum** and **dedendum** both refer to the "radial distance from the pitch circle of a cogwheel or wormwheel". The two differ only in the sense that **addendum** says the distance is "to the crests of the teeth or ridges", while the distance in **dedendum** is "to the bottom of the tooth space or groove". The two lemmata share something in common, but this does not necessarily suggest that they are synonyms.

In order for the dictionary user to understand properly what the lemma **addendum** means, it has to be checked in comparison with the lemma **dedendum.**

According to this dictionary, **black water** and **grey water** have something in common, namely, they both refer to water. The treatment of these lemmata spells out their difference. Let us examine how each of them is treated:

black water ▪*n.* technical waste water and sewage from toilets.
Compare with GREY WATER   p.142

grey water ▪*n.* technical the relatively clean waste water from baths, sinks, and washing machines. Compare with BLACK WATER.
                                                                                         p.626

The difference between these two lemmata may be minimal, but the fact of the matter remains, they do not mean exactly one and the same. It is possible for the dictionary user to think that **black water** and **grey water** are the same and can be used interchangeably. This is not true, that is why lexicographers took efforts to indicate that the two lemmata must be consulted in comparision with each other to get their difference.

The comprehensive treatment of **fauna** and **flora** in the same dictionary serves as an example of how the reference entry "compare" is used in the microstructure of this dictionary. Consider the following entries:

> fauna / _f□:n□_ / ■*n*. (*pl*. *f*aunas) the animals of a particular region, habitat, or geological period. Compare with FLORA.
> p.518

> flora ■*n*. (*pl*. *f*loras.) 1 the plants of a particular region, habitat, or geological period. Compare with FAUNA. p.546

The only difference between the above lemmata is that **fauna** refers to animals while **flora** refers to plants. These animals and plants are of a particular region, habitat or geological period. The way the two lemmata have been treated is good. Both lemmata receive a comprehensive treatment, and at the end of each treatment, there has to be an indication of cross referencing that suggests that the cross referenced lemmata are not synonyms. Animals and plants that are referred to above, are not the same thing, but they share something in common, that is, they are of a particular region, habitat or geological period.

The presentation of **cow** and **heifer** in the above mentioned dictionary shows that their meanings are closely related although they do not mean exactly the same thing in all respects. Again it should be noted that the difference between them is very minimal. Here is how they are presented:

> cow[1] ■*n*. 1 a fully grown female animal of a domesticated breed of ox. ➤ (in farming) an animal of this type which has borne more than one calf. Compare with HEIFER. p.331

> heifer / _h□f□_ / ■*n*. a cow that has not borne a calf, or has borne only one calf. Compare with cow[1]
> p.661

The use of the reference entry **"compare"** in this case suggests that although their meaning may be the same, there are some differences between them. The difference is that one of these animals has not borne a calf or has borne only one calf while the other animal has borne more than one calf.

The use of **SEE** as a reference entry in this dictionary is prevalent. It is used in most cases for synonymous lemmata, words that can be used interchangeably without the meaning being distorted.

The following presentation of lemmata **layman** and **laywoman** is acceptable as it gives a clear picture of how synonymous lemmata should be treated:

> layman (also laywoman or layperson) ■*n*. (*pl* laymen, laywomen, laypersons, or laypeople) 1 a non-ordained member of a church. 2 a person without professional or specialized knowledge. p.808
>
> laywoman ■*n*. **See** LAYMAN p.808

The way the above lemmata have been presented, it gives the dictionary user the idea that they are synonyms. Instead of repeating the same information for **laywoman**, the user is referred to where **layman** is entered. This again gives an impression that of the two lemmata, **layman** is the most frequently used word than **laywoman**.

The following presentation shows that it is not necessary for both synonym lemmata to receive a comprehensive treatment.

The most frequently used lemma is the one that should receive a comprehensive treatment, while the other lemma receives cross referencing to the one treated. Let us consider the following:

rag^3 / rag / ■*n*. 1 a large coarse roofing slate. 2 (also ragstone) Brit. a hard coarse sedimentary rock that can be broken into thick slabs   p.1186

ragstone ■*n*. see RAG^3 (sense 2)   p.1186

The above entries suggest that **rag^3** and **ragstone** are synonymous, that is why only one lemma is comprehensively treated and the other lemma cross-referenced. Should **ragstone** be given treatment, this would be time-wasting and misleading to dictionary users, more especially the non-speakers of English.

Another good example of well treated lemmata in this dictionary with regard to cross referencing is as follows:

Bactrian camel ■*n*. see CAMEL   p.98

Camel ■*n*. 1 a large, long-necked, mainly domesticated ungulate mammal of arid country, with long legs, broad feet, and either one or two humps on the back.   p.201

Although **Bactrian Camel** appears before **camel** in the dictionary entry, it did not receive treatment, instead it is cross referenced to the lemma **camel** because it is the most frequently used one.

Cross reference is done in many different ways other than the ways explained earlier on in this study. In this dictionary, besides using **compare** …, and **see**, lexicographers made use of **another term for** … as cross reference entry. The phrase **another term for** … in this dictionary is mainly used for synonymous lemmata.

The following lemmata **bushbaby** and **galago** are presented as follows:

> bushbaby ∎*n*. (*p*l. bushbabies) a small nocturnal treedwelling
> African primate with very large eyes. [Genus Galago: Several
> species]   p.188

> galago / g□ leɪga□ / ∎*n*. (*p*l. galagos) another term for ʙᴜsʜʙᴀʙʏ
>   p.581

It is obvious from the presentation that **bushbaby** and **galago** are synonyms, and it is therefore not necessary for "galago" to be given full treatment; instead it should receive cross reference to "bushbaby" which is comprehensively treated. This is commendable.

There are many instances in the above dictionary where cross referencing of synonymous lemmata is done through the use of the phrase **another term for** … . The presentation of **washeteria** and **launderette** is an example. Let us examine the following:

> launderette (also launderette) ∎*n*. Brit. an establishment with
> coin-operated washing machines and dryers for public use.
>
>   p. 806

> washeteria ∎*n*. another term for ʟᴀᴜɴᴅᴇʀᴇᴛᴛᴇ   p.1629

The above presentation suggests to us that the two lemmata, **launderette** and **washeteria** are synonyms, and that they can replace each in all contexts without changing the meaning. It further suggests that **launderette** is the most commonly used lemma than **washeteria**, hence it received full treatment, and **washteria** being cross referenced.

The alphabetical order of synonymous lemmata in the dictionary, does not play a role in determining which lemma is to be comprehensively treated, and which lemma has to receive cross reference. What determines the treatment of a lemma is whether it is the most frequently

31

used one. If one looks at the following entries, one realizes that **urticaria** received treatment as a result of being the most commonly used lemma.

nettlerash ■*n*. another term for ᴜʀᴛɪᴄᴀʀɪᴀ   p.961

urticaria /□□:tɪ k□:rɪ□ / ■*n*. Medicine a rash of round, red weals on the skin which itch intensely, caused by an allergic reaction.
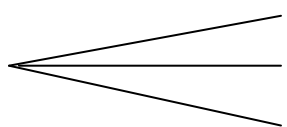
<div align="center">p.1592</div>
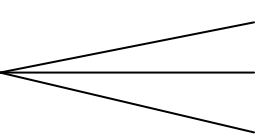
Lexicographers are applauded for the good work well done. Dictionary users will in no doubt benefit from this.
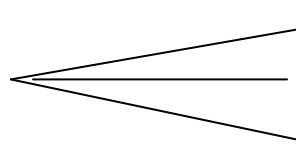
Although there is enough evidence of cross referencing in this dictionary, there are still many synonymous lemmata that have been comprehensively treated without any form of cross referencing. The following are a few examples of lemmata and their synonymous lemmata which are not cross referenced.

action — move / act

angry — cross / indignant

beautiful — pretty / handsome / attractive

border — boundry / line

<div align="center">32</div>
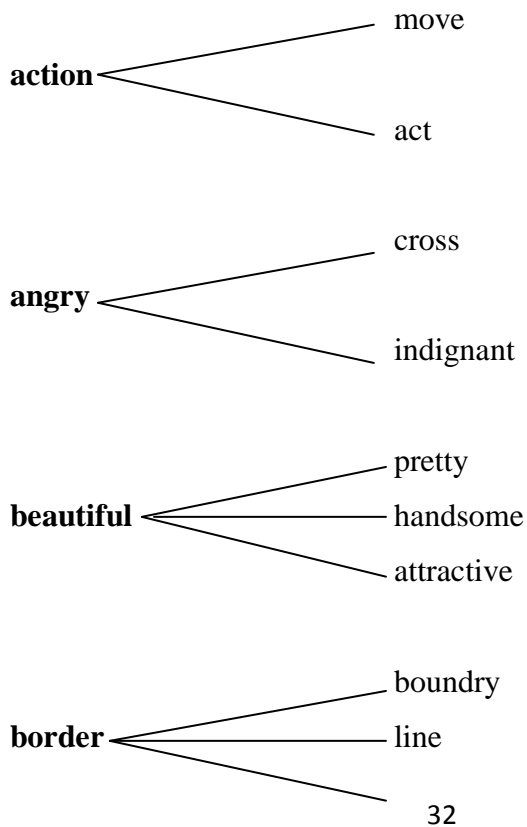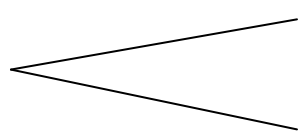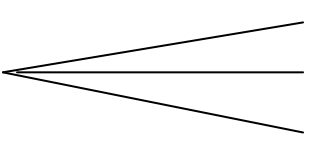
frontier
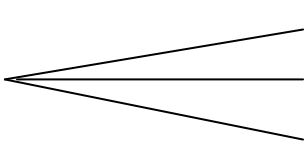
clear
- obvious
- apparent
- evident
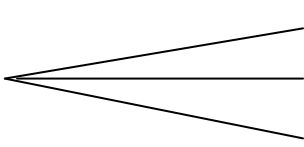
demand
- require
- expect
- insist

effect
- result
- consequence
- outcome

fast
- quick
- rapid

glad
- happy
- pleased
- delighted

hate
- dislike
- despise
- detest

pull
- drag
- draw
- haul

- rewarding

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satisfying ——————— pleasing

gratifying

terrible — awful

— horrible

— dreadful

valuable — precious

— prized

— priceless

3.3 *OXFORD ADVANCED LEARNER'S DICTIONARY* **(2006) AND CROSS REFERENCING**

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (2006) records lemmata and their definitions in one language only, which is English. Information in the dictionary is given in entries, arranged in an alphabetical order of headwords. The key to dictionary entries in this dictionary explains how cross reference is done.

The dictionary uses "**compare**" and "**see** also" as reference entries. "**Compare**" refers the dictionary user to a lemma with a contrasting meaning, while "**see also**" is used to refer the dictionary user to a lemma with a similar or related meaning. There is also cross reference of the entry in the dictionary for the less frequent spelling, where the dictionary user is directed to the main entry. This study will determine to what extent the above aspect is treated.

The following entries from the above mentioned dictionary has been used as examples of where **compare** is used as reference entry for lemmata with contrasting meanings:

abductor / aeb d□kt□(r) / noun 2 (also abductor muscle)
(anatomy) a muscle that moves a body part away from the

middle of the body or from another part – compare ADDUCTOR

<div align="right">p.2</div>

adductor / əˈd□kt□(r) / (also adductor muscle) noun
(anatomy) a muscle that moves a body part towards the middle
of the body or towards another part – compare ABDUCTOR

p.17

The two lemmata **abductor** and **adductor** do not mean the same; they are not synonyms; they have contrasting meanings. Both lemmata are nouns, and are words which are commonly used in anatomy. The difference between them is that **abductor** is the muscle that moves a body part away from the middle of the body whereas **adductor** is the muscle that moves a body part towards the middle of the body.

In order for the dictionary user to understand what **abductor** is, he has to compare its given meaning, with that of **adductor**. In this way their difference will be clear to the user, otherwise it may be confusing.

The meaning given to **maternal** in the microstructure of this dictionary is the opposite of the meaning given to **paternal**. Simply put, these two lemmata are antonyms. Their meanings contrast one another. In the dictionary entry, they are cross referenced in such a manner that one is able to draw a distinction between them. The use of reference entry **compare** is appropriate. Here is how they are treated:

maternal / mə□t□:nɪ / adj. 1 having feelings that are typical of a
caring mother towards a child … 2 connected with being a
mother … 3 related through the mother's side of the family …
Compare PATERNAL   p.909

paternal / pə□t□:nɪ / adj. 1 connected with being a father;
typical of a kind father … 2 related through the father's side of
the family … Compare MATERNAL   p.1067

What **qualitative** and **quantitative** mean can be confusing to the dictionary user, more especially the one who is the non-speaker of English. Lexicographers made things much more easier by giving both lemmata comprehensive treatment, and even cross referencing them by using **compare** as a reference entry.

Looking at the treatment of these two lemmata in the microstructure, one realizes that the two words are not similar but that they are antonyms, that is why they have opposite meanings. Here follows how they are entered:

> qualitative /ˈkw□lɪt□tɪv / adj. connected with how good sth is, rather than with how much of it there is … Compare QUANTITATIVE   p.1187

> quantitative /ˈkw□ntɪt□tɪv / adj. connected with the amount or number of sth rather than with how good it is … Compare QUALITATIVE   p.1187

These lemmata have to be consulted in comparison with each other, otherwise it may be confusing. Lexicographers did a good job by cross referencing these lemmata. In this way dictionary users feel that this dictionary serves the good purpose of being a reference book.

The treatment of the following lemmata **invertebrate** and **vertebrate** in the microstructure of this dictionary shows that although they may be sharing something in common, they have contrasting meanings. After the treatment of **invertebrate**, the user is referred to where **vertebrate** is treated and vice versa.

This is how they are treated:

> Invertebrate / ɪnˈv□:t□br□t / noun (technical) any animal with no BACKBONE, for example a worm – compare VERTEBRATE p.786
>
> vertebrate /ˈv□:tɪbr□t / noun (technical) any animal with a BACKBONE, including all MAMMALS, birds, fish, REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS – Compare INVERTEBRATE   p.1637

With regard to cross referencing of lemmata that have contrasting meanings, it has to be noted that both headwords receive comprehensive treatment and this will not be the repetition of unnecessary information because the meaning is not the same.

Cross referencing of words that are similar or those with related meaning is done through the use of **see also**. Through-out the whole dictionary, there are headwords that are cross referenced through the reference marker **see also**. The following serve as examples to illustrate the point:

> Candid / kaendɪd / adj. 1 saying what you think openely and honestly: not hiding your thoughts: … a candid statement / interview – see also CANDOUR   p.207
>
> Candour (BrE) (NAmE candor) / kaend☐ (r) / noun. the quality of saying what you think openly and honestly … see also CANDID
>   p. 207

What is noticeable with the above presentation is that , although these words are similar or have related meanings, they are both given comprehensive treatment, and this appears to be the repetition of same information. But the fact of the matter is, it is appreciated that the two have been cross referenced, and this gives dictionary users more chances of learning.

Dementia and **senile dementia** have also been cross referenced using **see also**. They also have been given full treatment despite the fact that their meanings are more or less the same. These lemmata may not be synonymous, but their meanings are closely related. Their treatment in this dictionary will give an idea of how the two lemmata differ. This is how they are described:

> dementia /dɪ men☐☐ / noun [U] (medical) a serious mental DISORDER caused by brain disease or injury, that affects the ability to think, remember and behave normally – see also SENILE DEMENTIA   p.388

senile de mentia noun [U] a serious mental DISORDER in old
people that causes loss of memory, loss of control of the body,
etc.   p.1329

After checking the meaning of **dementia** from the dictionary, the user of dictionary is further referred to check the meaning of **senile dementia** by using the reference entry **see also**. It is only after this where the dictionary user will realize the differences between the two lemmata.

There are abbreviations which are similar or whose meanings are related to each other, they are as well cross referenced for dictionary users to realize their similarities. Each of these abbreviations are given comprehensive treatment, and at the end of the treatment, a reference is made to the other abbreviation using **See also**. The following presentation serves to illustrate the argument:

attn abbr. (business) (in writing) for the attention of: Sales Dept,
attn C Biggs – see also FAO   p.82

fao abbr. (BrE) used in writing to mean 'for the attention of;
written on a document or letter to say who should deal with it –
see also ATTN   p.532

The microstructure of this dictionary provides enough detailed information about the headword in as far as cross reference is concerned.

There are some words in English that have more than one possible spelling, and both spelling are acceptable. Whenever information about them is given in the microstructure, it is given at the most frequent spelling. At the entry for the less frequent spelling a cross-reference directs the user to the main entry (Hornby, 2000: ix). The focus is not on spelling, but on cross-referencing as it shows itself on lemmata with more than one spelling.

The following are entries of such lemmata with more than one possible spelling and how they are cross-referenced:

banister (also bannister) noun (BrE also banisters [p1]) the posts
and rail which you can hold for support when going up or down
stairs: …   p.102

bannister = BANISTER   p.103

Banister is the lemma with the most frequent spelling, that is why it receives treatment, while **bannister** with less frequent spelling receives cross-referencing. If it is done in this manner, the dictionary use will know that the lemma has more than one spelling and that the most commonly used spelling is the one that receives treatment.

Encrustation and i**ncrustation** are such example of a lemma with more than one possible spelling. It is only one such spelling which will receive treatment, and the other spelling will be referred to the one already treated. Here is how they are entered and treated:

encrustation /ˌenkrɒˈsteɪ□n / noun = INCRUSTATION
p.481

incrustation (also encrustation) /ˌɪnkrɒˈsteɪ□n / noun [U, C]
the process of forming a hard outer covering or layer; the
covering or layer that is formed.
p.757

The treatment of a lemma is not determined by the fact that it appears before others in terms of alphabetical order, but that its spelling is the most frequently used one. Not all possible spellings receive treatment, only one spelling does, otherwise this will be the repetition of same information, which is unnecessary and uncalled for.

Both **gage** and **gauge** are possible spelling of the same lemma, and both spelling are acceptable, though gage is not commonly used as compared to **gauge**. **Gauge** is the spelling which is frequently used. Whenever the two possible spelling are presented in the dictionary entry, **gage** will not be treated, instead it will receive cross-referencing to the comprehensively treated spelling, namely **gauge**.

This is how the two possible spelling are treated in the above dictionary under discussion:

gage (NAmE) = GAUGE   p.610

gauge (NAmE also gage) / geɪd□/ noun, verb
■noun 1 (often in compounds) an instrument for measuring the
amount or level of sth: a fuel/ petrol / temperature, etc …
■verb 1 to make a judgement about sth especially people's
feelings or attitudes: …   p.617

The above treatment shows cross-reference of a lemma with more than one possible spelling. The use of the sign "=" between these two spelling is an indication that one spelling is cross-referenced to the other spelling.

3.4 *PHAROS POPULAR NORTHERN SOTHO DICTIONARY* **(1996) AND CROSS-REFERENCING**

Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary (1996) is a bilingual bi-directional dictionary. This dictionary records two languages at the same time that is Northern Sotho and English. It treats the two languages, source and target language equally in its two sections. It consists of two alphabetical components, that is one in the first section and the other alphabetical order in the second section where the other language is used as the source language.

In this type of a dictionary, the meanings of the headwords are given as translation equivalents in the microstructure of the dictionary. In the first section of Pharos Popular Northern South

Dictionary, Northern Sotho is used as the source language while English is used as the target language. In the second section of this dictionary English is used as the source language and Northern Sotho as the target language.

This is a relatively small pocket dictionary which is about three hundred and thirty-five pages. The dictionary has neither the front matter nor the Back matter; it only has the central list where headwords and their translation equivalents are recorded. It is in this section of the dictionary where we expect to find cross-referencing of words that are related in meaning, words that are similar, synonyms and antonyms.

If one goes through the whole dictionary, one realizes that there is no cross referencing of lemmata done in this dictionary, except where **gêmpê** and **hêmpê** are used as alternative spelling. This is how they are presented:

gêmpê shirt   p.37

hêmpê (dial.) shirt; see: gempe   p.39

The following Northern Sotho words are synonyms: **bogobe** and **boušwa**. The way they are entered and treated in this dictionary, do not show that they are in one way or another related. This is how they are treated:

bogôbê porridge, bread   p.11

boušwa porridge   p.17

According to lexicography, the above presentation is not recommended. The translation equivalent for both **bogobe** and **boušwa** is **porridge**. What is supposed to happen is to give the lemma which is frequently used a treatment in the form of translation equivalent, and the other lemma should be cross referenced to the one treated. What is known is that **bogobe** is the

commonly used lemma than **boušwa**. Therefore the following presentation would be the most accepted one:

> **bogôbê** n porridge, bread.

> **boušwa** n **SEE** bogobe

In this way dictionary users will know the translation equivalents of **bogobe**, and also that **boušwa** is its synonym. In this way it becomes a true reference book.

The treatment of **badiidi** and **bohloki** is also not acceptable. It becomes queer if in a dictionary the same information is repeated unnecessarily. Here is how the above lemmata are treated in this dictionary:

> badiidi needy / poor people   p.5

> bahlôki the poor, poor people   p.6

The most accepted way of treating the above lemmata would be the following:

> badiidi noun poor people; needy; paupers; unwealthy people

> bahlôki **SEE** badiidi

The reason why this presentation would be the most accepted one is that **badiidi** is the most frequent used lemma as opposed to **bahloki**, this is according to one of the lecturers at University of Limpopo's School of Languages and Communication Studies, and as such it has to be comprehensively treated while **bahloki** receives cross-referencing.

The following lemmata are synonymous. They can replace each other in many contexts without the meaning being distorted:

> **kefa**

kuane

katiba

mongatse

When they entered in the alphabetical list of the dictionary, not all of them should receive treatment, only the one lemma which is the most frequently used one has to receive treatment. Contrary to the above statement, it is realized that the two lemmata that are included in the dictionary have received treatment. This is how they are treated:

kefa hat, cap   p.54

kuane hat   p.65

The information given as translation equivalent for **kefa** is repeated under the treatment of **kuane**, showing that these lemmata are indeed synonyms. This is not necessary.

Perhaps the most appropriate and recommended way to present them would be the following:

katiba *n* **SEE** kefa

kefa *n* hat, cap

kuane *n* **SEE** kefa

mongatse *n* **SEE** kefa

This presentation is necessitated by the fact that **kefa** is the most common lemma hence it receives full treatment, otherwise the other lemmata are cross-referenced to **kefa**. The alphabetical order of synonym lemmata does not determine which lemma should be treated and which one should be cross-referenced.

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There are as well lemmata in the second section of this dictionary, where English is used as the source language, which were not supposed to have been treated, but these lemmata have been given treatment in the form of translation equivalent, instead of being cross-referenced. This is an indication that the dictionary under discussion did not include cross-referencing as one of the major aspects of this dictionary.

The treatment of **aeroplane** and **aircraft** show very well that these lemmata are synonymous. The Northern Sotho translation equivalent of these words is **Sefofane**. This can be witnessed from the following:

aeroplane sefofane   p.183

aircraft sefofane   p.184

The way the above lemmata have been treated is unacceptable. Only one lemma was supposed to receive treatment while the other lemma is cross-referenced. The most frequently used lemma is the one that is suppose to be dealt with fully. The following serves as a recommendation on how the two lemmata were to be treated:

aeroplane *n* sefofane, folaematšhene; sephatšamaru

aircraft *n* **BONA** aeroplane

One Language Practitioner who works in the Parliament of South Africa, believes that **Sephatšamaru** is most applicable to **Spacecraft** or **Spaceshuttle**, and that the most commonly used term for **aeroplane** is **Sefofane**

The following lemmata also are not well presented:

dunce setlaêla   p.222

fool *n*., setlaêla, lešilo   p.233

idiot sethôthô, lešilo   p.246

stupid sethôthô, lešilo   p.312

In trying to address the macrostructure, the lexicographer in the microstructure has repeated the same information unnecessarily. This is not recommended because it is misleading as dictionary users may fail to discover that these lemmata are synonymous. Here follows a suggestion on how best these lemmata could be presented:

dunce *n* **BONA** stupid

fool *n* **BONA** stupid

idiot *n* **BONA** stupid

stupid *n* setlaêla, lešilo, setlatla, seota, sethothô

The above lemmata mean one and the same thing. Their Northern Sotho translation equivalents are the same, and as such not all of them should be treated, only one such lemma which is frequently used receives treatment, while the others receive cross-referencing to the one treated.

The presentation of **commerce** and **trade** in this dictionary is likely to confuse dictionary users. There is no indication whatsoever that these headwords are related in as far as their meanings are concerned. Here is how they are treated:

commerce papatšô, kgwêbô   p.205

trade   kgwêbô, papatšo,
         mošomô, v., bapatša, kalokana   p.321

The microstructure of the two lemmata have the same translation equivalent which shows that these lemmata are synonyms, and that it is not proper for both lemmata to be given comprehensive treatment as it is done above. According to lexicography lemmata should not be treated in isolation but should be treated in relation to others.

It would have been better if the two synonym lemmata were treated in the following manner:

commerce *n* **BONA** trade

trade   *n* kgwêbô, papašô,
            mošomo; v., gwêba, bapatša

This presentation is acceptable because it is informative

3.5 *SESOTHO SA LEBOA-ENGLISH DICTIONARY* (2005) AND CROSS REFERENCING

Like *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996), *Sesotho Sa Leboa-English Dictionary* (2005) is a bilingual bi-directional dictionary. This is one of the few Northern Sotho – English dictionaries published thus far. Although most words are recorded in this dictionary, this is a small dictionary of only two hundred and thirteen pages.

In the first section of this dictionary, Northern Sotho is presented as the source language while English is the target language. In the second section, English is used as source language with Northern Sotho as target language.

Small as it is, this dictionary is user-friendly in as far as cross-referencing is concerned. Lemmata with more than one spelling, words which are similar, words with related meaning and synonyms are treated and cross-referenced where necessary. Examples of such lemmata from the first section of this dictionary, have been used to illustrate the point. The following are lemmata with two alternative spelling and both spelling are accepted:

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bafelegetši *n* escorts; companions   p.3

bafelesetši *n* **SEE** bafelegetši   p.3

Of the two spellings, the one that receives treatment is **bafelegetši** because is the most frequently used one, and **bafelesetši** receives cross-referencing to the treated lemma.

The following three lemmata are synonyms. They can replace each other in many context without affecting the meaning. The way they are presented and treated in this dictionary is good because there is no repetition of unnecessary information. This is a good work which will obviously assist dictionary users to learn more. This is how they are presented:

bagadikana *n* co-wives; women sharing the same man; women married to the same man; enemies.   p.3

bagadikane *n* **SEE** bagadikana   p.3

bagaditšong *n* **SEE** bagadikana   p.3

It will be naïve on the part of lexicographers to give all the three synonym lemmata comprehensive treatment.

Baikgantšhi and **baikgogomoši** are synonyms. They have same meaning and therefore their treatment in the microstructure of a dictionary must indicate as such. Let us look at how they are treated:

baikgantšhi *n* proud people; haughty people; arrogant people p.4
baikgogomoši **SEE** baikgantšhi   p.4

The reason **baikgantšhi** is comprehensively treated as opposed to **baikgogomoši**, is because it is the most frequently used lemma, and accordingly, the most frequently lemma receives treatment. This is a very good presentation of these lemmata.

The treatment of the following lemmata: **bereka** and **šoma** shows one important thing. According to alphabetical order, **bereka** appears before **šoma**. One may think that comprehensive treatment should be given to the lemma that comes first on the dictionary list, but this is not the case. Originally **bereka** is a loan word or an adoptive from Afrikaans **werk** and as such it is less frequently used than the Northern Sotho **Šoma.** Lexicographers are applauded for the manner in which these lemmata are treated.

bereka v **SEE** šoma   p.6

šoma v work; labour   p.101

The presentation of the following three synonym lemmata is also commendable:

dino *n* drinks; soft drinks; cold drinks   p.14

dinodilapološi *n* **SEE** dino   p.14

dinotšididi **SEE** dino   p.15

Even though this dictionary treats cross-referencing in a proper and most convenient way, there are incidents where cross-referencing is not done. If one looks at the following entries, one realizes that something unusual has happened:

kudumela *n* sweat; perspiration   p.38

sethitho *n* sweat; perspiration   p.99

sethogothogo *n* **SEE sethitho**   p.99

The above three lemmata are synonyms, their meanings are similar. It is then surprising to see both **kudumela** and **sethitho** receiving treatment. The best way is to give one of these lemmata

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comprehensive treatments and that the other two must receive cross-referencing like the example below:

kudumela *n* sweat; perspiration

sethitho *n* **SEE** kudumela

sethogothogo *n* **SEE** kudumela

Throughout the whole of the first section of this dictionary, the reference entry used for cross-referencing is **SEE** except for one entry where **COMPARE** is used. Let us examine the following:

gotetša v light fir; set alight; kindle light; inflame   p.24

gotša v light; kindle **COMPARE** gotetša   p.24

Gotetša and **gotša** are not synonyms, but they are semantically related to the same topic. In order for the user to comprehend well the meaning of **gotša**, he has to compare what is given as the translation equivalent with what is given as the meaning of **gotetša**.

The second section of this dictionary does not differ much from the first section, except for the fact that in this section, English is used as the source language and translation equivalents are given in Northern Sotho. The reference entry used is the Northern Sotho **BONA**.

In this section there are as well synonym lemmata that are treated while others have been cross-referenced to the ones that received treatment, although there are not so many such cases. Here follow few such examples:

cry bitterly n itšhatšharela; golota; gotla   p.137

cry endlessy n **BONA** cry bitterly   p.137

The above two headwords are synonyms with **cry bitterly** as the most commonly used, that is why it is comprehensively treated while **cry endlessly** which is less frequently used receives cross-referencing.

Granny and **grandmother** refer to one and the same thing. Their treatment in this dictionary indicates this. It will then be the waste of time to give both lemmata treatment. The way they have been dealt with is satisfactory. There is no information which has been repeated. Look how they are presented in the microstructure:

grandmother n koko; makgolo   p.152

granny n **BONA** grandmother

These lemmata can replace each other in many contexts and the meaning will remain unchanged.

3.6 CONCLUSION

This chapter looks at how cross-referencing as the most important meta-lexicographic aspect is dealt with in the four dictionaries under discussion.

The analysis reveals that in the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), cross-referencing is presented in the most convenient and acceptable way. The reference entry **Compare with …** is used for lemmata with contrasting meanings**, another term for …** and **See** are used as reference entries for synonym lemmata. The reference entry links the untreated lemma with the meaning already given to the treated lemma. Although there is a feeling that not all synonym lemmata have been cross-referenced accordingly, there is no doubt that those which have been cross-referenced, was done satisfactorily.

In the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), lexicographers use **compare** to cross-reference lemmata with contrasting meanings while **see also** is used for lemmata with similar or related meanings. The equal sign = is often used in this dictionary for a lemma with more than one possible spelling, to indicate the most preferred and frequently used spelling.

There is no cross-referencing in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996).

SEE and **BONA** (Northern Sotho) are reference entries that are used for cross-reference in *Sesotho sa Leboa – English / English Sesotho sa Leboa dictionary* (2005). There are many incidents where these entries are used, with only one case where the dictionary uses **COMPARE** as a reference entry.

Dictionary users should find these dictionaries to be user-friendly

CHAPTER FOUR

4. PRONUNCIATION AND PARTS OF SPEECH

4.1 INTRODUCTION

It is important that lemmata should be correctly pronounced, otherwise wrong pronunciation of lemmata results in the distortion of meaning. A comment on form, namely parts of speech, is on of the important aspects of microstructure, which has been discussed in this study. It is imperative to indicate what type of part of speech an individual lemma is.

4.2 PRONUNCIATION

Pronunciation is one of the aspects which the study has addressed. The study has investigated whether the dictionaries under research suggest ways to the accepted form of pronunciation. It is important for dictionary users to learn about the proper pronunciation of lemmata, because wrong pronunciation of a lemma results in the shift of meaning.

Jackson (2002:102) has this to say with regard to pronunciation

> How a word is pronounced is one of its idiosyncratic facts; it is
> the phonological counterpart of spelling (orthography), its shape
> in the medium of sound as against its shape in the medium of
> writing. We would expect, therefore, that dictionaries would

indicate at least the sounds that constitute the pronunciation of the word and for words of more than one syllable the stress pattern.

According to Jackson, the important aspect in pronunciation is the sound rather than how the word is written. Most dictionaries use International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA), a system based on the Roman alphabet, to represent pronunciation. The system could be used for transcribing the speech of any language and as an aid in learning the pronunciation of a foreign language [Jackson: 2002:102].

There is another pronunciation system other than IPA, and this is called respelling. According to Landau [2001:118], this is one system in which the entry word is respelled in alphabetic characters with diacritical marks over certain vowels and with primary and secondary stress marks indicated. Landau [2001:118] further argues that:

> … it represents the meaningful, distinctive sound in a language but is not based on how the sounds are produced; that is, it is not phonetic. It is based on phonemes, the smallest units of sound that can be used to differentiate meaning.

This study has interrogated whether lexicographers gave pronunciations of certain lemmata in their dictionaries, and to what extent. It should be borne in mind that we do not expect that pronunciation should be given to all lemmata in the dictionary entry. Only those lemmata whose pronunciations are likely to cause problems should be given treatments with regard to pronunciation.

4.2.1 *CONCISE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY* (2006)

Concise Oxford English Dictionary (2006) is one of the dictionaries which give pronunciations of lemmata. Pronunciations for ordinary and everyday words are not given in this dictionary, the assumption being that native speakers of English may not encounter problems with the pronunciation of such words.

In the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006) the principle followed is that pronunciations

are given where they are likely to cause problems for the native speaker of English, in particular for foreign words, foreign names, scientific and other technical terms, rare words, words with unusual stress patterns, and words in which the standard pronunciation is disputed.

(Introduction, p. xv)

There is an indication in the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary (2006)*, of consonants which have their usual English values and also symbols which are used for pronunciations. Different vowels and their values as well are indicated so that it becomes much easier for the dictionary user to have the correct pronunciation of a lemma. Symbols such as ´ and □ are used in this dictionary to indicate different stress patterns.

It is up to the dictionary user to acquaint himself with this important information in the introductory section of this dictionary; this will assist him to have the correct pronunciation of various lemmata.

Examples of lemmata and how they are pronounced, have been given to show how important it is for a dictionary to include a guide on how certain lemmata are to be pronounced.

The following lemmata share certain features in as far as letters of alphabet are concerned, but still the pronunciation of those same syllables in these lemmata differ. Here follows these lemmata and how they are pronounced:

1. abacus /ˈabəkəs / ∎n. (pl. abacuses) l a ƒrame with rows of wires or grooves … used for calculating   p.2

2. abaƒt / əˈb□□ft / ∎adv. $ prep. … in or behind the stern of a ship   p.2

3. abalone /□abə ́lə□ni / ■n. an ɛdible mollusc of warm seas,
    …
    p.2

4. abase / ə ́beɪs / ■v. (usu. abase oneself) behave in a way that
    belittles or degrades (someone).   p.2

5. abate / ə ́beɪt / ■v. 1 (of something bad) becomes less
    intense or widespread.   p.2

The above five lemmata start with **aba** as their first three letters of the alphabet. How this **aba** is pronounced in each of the five lemmata differ, except the last two lemmata that are pronounced in a similar way, with the same stress pattern. It is clear from the above examples that in pronunciation, one letter of the alphabet often represents more than one sound.

The following lemmata and their different pronunciation indicate clearly that one letter of the alphabet, like **c** is used in different lemmata to represent more than one sound:

6. Cabaret / ́kabərel, □kabə ́reɪ / ■n. entertainment held in
    nightclub …   p.193

7. Cachet / ́ka□eɪ / ■n. 1 prestige. 2 a distinguishing mark …
                                                                  p.194

8. Caecillian / sɪ ́sɪlən / … ■n a burrowing worm-like
    amphibian of a tropical order …   p.196

9. Caesar / ́si□zə / ■n. 1 a title of Roman emperors, especially
    those from Augustus to Hadrian.   p.196

In examples 6 and 7, the letter **c** is pronounced as **k**, contrary to this, in examples 8 and 9, the same letter **c** is pronounced as **s**. If there was no indication on how these lemmata are

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pronounced, dictionary users who are learners of English and who are not native speakers of this language, would find problems in pronouncing them.

There are many such examples in the above dictionary where one letter of alphabet is used in pronunciation to represent different sounds. Here follow examples of lemmata where the vowel **u** is used for more than one sound:

10. ducal /ˈdjuːk (ə) l / ■adj. like or relating to a duke …
    p.441

11. ducat /ˈdʌkət / ■n. 1a gold coin formerly current in most
    European countries   p.441

12. educate /ˈɛdjʊkeɪt / ■v. give intellectual, moral, and social
    instruction to.   p.455

13. Purgative /ˈpəˈgətɪv / ■adj. strongly laxative in effect. ■n. a
    laxative.   p.1166

The inclusion of how lemmata should be pronounced in this dictionary makes things a lot easier. Although examples 10, 11; 12 and 13 include the same vowel **u**, the very same vowel is pronounced differently in all four lemmata. This illustrates clearly the importance of including the suggested ways to the accepted form of pronunciation.

Not all consonants have their usual English values. A consonant like **g** is pronounced differently when used in different lemmata. It is therefore necessary for lexicographers to include in their dictionaries pronunciation of such lemmata that are likely to cause problems to the native speakers of English.

The following are examples of lemmata where the consonant **g** is used to represent more that one sound:

14. a. gavial /ˈgeɪvɪəl / ■n. variant spelling of GHARIAL   p.590

14. b. gazump / gəˊzʌmp / ■v. Brit. make a higher offer for a house than (someone whose offer has already been accepted) and thus succeed in acquiring the property

<div align="right">p.590</div>

15. gemsbok /ˊxɛmzb☐k, ˊxɛms- / ■n. a large antelope with distinctive black and white …   p.592

16. gendarme /ˊ☐☐nda☐m / ■n.1 a paramilitary police officer in French-speaking countries.
p.592

17. genic /ˊd☐i☐nɪk, ˊd☐ɛn- / ■adj. relating to genes.   p.593

The above lemmata number 14a, 14b, 15, 16 and 17 did not originate from the same language. Some are Hindi by origin, others British, others French, East Africa while others are biological terms. Because not all of them are English by origin, they will obviously create problems to the native speakers of English with regard to pronunciation. In order to address this problem, lexicographers are compelled to give a suggestion on how they should be pronounced.

There are many lemmata from this dictionary which their pronunciation have been indicated. The above few lemmata were just cited as examples to prove that this dictionary includes pronunciation as one of the important aspect of dictionaries.

4.2.2 *OXFORD ADVANCED LEARNER'S DICTIONARY* (2006)

The *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006) provides pronunciation for North American English (NAmE) as well as for British English, but in the case where the American pronunciation differs from the British pronunciation it is given after the British pronunciation in the dictionary:

tomato / təˊma☐tə☐; (NAmE) təˊmeɪto☐/.

If then **tomato** can still be afforded two different pronunciations, for both North American English (NAmE) and British English (BrE), it therefore requires dictionary users to acquaint themselves with how various speech sounds are represented with regard to pronunciation, in both two languages, otherwise wrong pronunciation will be realized and as a result, the meaning of a lemmata becomes distorted.

Not all lemmata with the same combination of vowels, are pronounced the same way. The following lemmata from the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006) have the same combination of vowels, but they are pronounced differently:

18. heifer / ˈheʄə (r) / noun a young female cow, …   p.695

19. height / haɪt /   p.695

20. heiress / ˈeəres; -rəs; NAmEˈer / noun ~ (to sth) a female heir, …   p.696

From the above presentation, it becomes clear that even vowels do not at all times represent their usual values. Perhaps the sounds they represent when used in different lemmata is determined to a large extent by the consonants that are in close proximity or in juxtaposition. The focus of this research, is not to interrogate the reasons why same letters of alphabet at times represent different sounds, but on the contrary, the study focuses on whether pronunciation of certain lemmata are dealt with, something that will benefit dictionary users in terms of pronouncing lemmata.

The following lemmata start with the letter **h** followed by the vowel **ɩ**, but surprisingly enough, the very same syllables are not pronounced the same way:

21. hike / haɪk / noun, verb

■noun 1 a long walk in the country: …   p.705

22. hijab / hɪˈd□□□b / noun 1 [c] a head covering worn in
public by some Muslim women.
p.705

The pronunciation of examples 21 **hike** and 22 **hijab** do not seem to be the same in as far as their spellings are concerned. Instead, it is example 19 **height** and example 21 **hike** which are the same with regard to the articulation of their first syllables, which are **"hei…"** and **"hi…"** respectively.

If pronunciation of these lemmata was not included in the above dictionary, dictionary users, more especially the non speakers of English, would think that these lemmata are pronounced in the same manner, and this would lead to the shift in meaning. This is indeed a proof that the importance of pronunciation in dictionaries cannot be overemphasized.

It is very interesting to realize how the consonant **j** is used to represent more than one sound in different lemmata. The following two lemmata will assist us to illustrate our argument:

23. jojoba / həˈhə□bə; hə□ˈhə□bə; NAmE ho□ˈho□bə / noun
1 [ʊ] oil from the seeds of an American plant, often used in
COSMETICS …   p.801

24. joist / d□□ɪst / noun. a long thick piece of wood or metal
that is used to support a floor …
p.801

The **j** in example 23 **jojoba**, is far from being pronounced like the **j** as in example 24 **joist**. It is for this reason that lexicographers should as far as possible, try their utmost best, to see to it that they include pronunciation in their dictionaries as one of the most important aspect.

The above examples from the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), bear testimony that lexicographers have done justice in ensuring that pronunciation in this dictionary is treated to the letter. This is good work which is commendable.

4.2.3 *PHAROS POPULAR NORTHERN SOTHO DICTIONARY* **(1996)**

It is worth noting to realize that there is no indication whatsoever, of pronunciation in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996). The only indication that could be of assistance to dictionary users, with regard to how a lemma is to be pronounced, is the diacritic mark placed on some of the vowels. Richard, Platt and Platt (1992:106) define diacritic as a mark placed over, under, or through a letter to show that it has a sound value different from that of the same letter without the mark.

The following are examples of lemmata that have vowels with diacritic marks on them:

<div style="margin-left:2em">

anêga   tell; spread out in order to dry   p.4

kêrêkê   church,   ~ ng in / at the church   p.54

tôrôpô   town, ~ ng in the town   p.167

pôkôlô   donkey   p.131

</div>

The diacritic mark placed on the vowels suggests that the vowel is a low vowel. This may assist the native speaker of Northern Sotho to pronounce the lemma well. It will still be a challenge for dictionary users, who are learning the language, to have the correct pronunciation. It is for this reason that lexicographers should have included the pronounciation of most lemmata in their dictionary. The following is a suggestion on how the above lemmata were supposed to have been presented:

<div style="margin-left:2em">

anêga [anɛ☐a] tell; spread out in order to dry

</div>

kêrêkê [kˈɛrɛkˈɛ] church, ~ ng in / at the church.

tôrôpô [tˈ□rˈ□pˈ□] town, ~ ng in the town

pôkôlô [pˈ□kˈ□l□] donkey

The most convenient and simple way to indicate pronunciation for Northern Sotho lemmata is to use the phonetic transcript, and this has to be written in brackets like the examples above.

Other vowels like the low central vowel **a**, as in **aga** (build), the mid-high front vowel **e**, as in **lebese** (milk), the high front vowel **i**, as in **kitima** (run), the high back vowel **u**, as in **dula** (sit down) and the mid-high back vowel **o**, as in **motho** (person), have their usual values. These vowels may not give dictionary users problems concerning pronunciation.

The only time when they will give dictionary users problems is when the mid-high vowels become raised, as a result of the influence by either the high front vowel or the high back vowels. The following lemma and its presentation will be used to explain our argument:

molemi one who ploughs, hoes or cultivates   p.104

There is no indication on how the lemma is to be pronounced. The lemma has the following vowels: the mid-high back vowel **o** and the mid-high front vowel **e**, which are both raised because they are influenced by the high front vowel **i**. As such the presentation of this lemma in a dictionary, has to be in such a manner that dictionary users are made aware of such influence and its correct pronunciation. The following presentation may solve the problem:

molemi [mọl□mi] noun, one who ploughs, hoes or cultivates.

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The presentation of the following lemmata, with low back vowel **ô** and the low front vowel **ê** is not accepted:

kôlôi waggon, wagon, ~ ng at/on the wagon   p.64

ditêdu beard, beards   p.26

The treatment of the above lemmata does not include any suggestion of how they are to be pronounced. The diacritic marks on some of the vowels are not enough. These diacritic marks indicate only that these are low vowels. That the very same low vowels are raised, is not indicated. The best presentation would be:

kôlôi [k′□l□i] noun, wagon, ~ **ng** at/on the wagon

ditêdu [⊥it□⊥u] noun beard, beards

Like English, Northern Sotho also has certain consonants which are used to represent more than one sound, though the sounds are closely related to each other. The following lemmata from *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996), are likely to give dictionary users problems in terms of pronunciation:

lehôno	today	p.71
lehu	death, ~ ng at the death/funeral	p.71
mahea	mealies, maize	p.82
sehêbêhêbê	whispering	p.142
mohêitêne	heathen	p.99

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mohola   use, advantage   p.100

Lexicographers did not include the accepted form of pronunciation of the above lemmata, and as a result, dictionary users, more especially the non-speakers of Northern Sotho will find it very difficult to distinguish, in terms of pronunciation between the different **h**. It should be noted that there exist a difference between a prevelar medial voiceless fricative continuant consonant, and a glottal medial voiced fricative continuant consonant.

The inclusion of pronunciation of the above lemmata will help to solve the problem. Here follows a suggested presentation of these lemmata:

lehôno [leh□no] noun. today

lehu [lehu] noun death, ~ **ng** at the death / funeral

mohola [mohola] use, advantage

mahea [ma□ea] noun mealies, maize

mohêitêne [mo□□it́□ne] noun heathen

sehêbêhêbe [se□εβε□εβε] whispering

It is very important for lexicographers to include in their dictionaries, a suggestion on how certain lemmata are pronounced. In this way, their dictionaries will become reference books in the real sense.

4.2.4 *SESOTHO SA LEBOA / ENGLISH PUKUNTŠU DICTIONARY* (2006)

Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary (2006) does not include pronunciation of lemmata. According to Richard et al (1992:296), pronunciation is the way a certain sound or sound is produced. They further argue that pronunciation stresses more the way sounds are perceived by the hearer, … and often relates the spoken word to its written form, … . It is therefore necessary for lexicographers to indicate how particular sounds are produced, putting more emphasis on how individual word are spoken than how they are written.

It would be appreciated if pronunciation was one of the aspects treated in the above dictionary. This would assist the dictionary users, in particular the non-speakers of Northern Sotho. There are many Northern Sotho lemmata, which may not be necessary for lexicographers to include a suggestion on how to pronounce them. But at the same time there are many other lemmata which may be confusing with regard to their pronunciation. It is for this reason, that the researcher feels that it is important to include pronunciation for such lemmata.

The following lemmata from *Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006) will be used to illustrate the importance of pronunciation:

nkga	v smell, stink		p.75
nong	*n* vulture		p.76
nyakega	v wanted; needed		p.78

All the above three lemmata start with the consonant **n**, but the very same **n** is not pronounced the same way. The combination of **n** with other letters of alphabet, determine how their pronunciation should be.

The following is a suggestion on how the above lemmata should have been presented in the dictionary:

nkga [ŋkxha] verb smell; stink

nông [n□ŋ] noun vulture

nyakêga [□ak′ɛ□a] verb wanted; needed

The above presentation will make dictionary users aware that the **n** in **nkga** is a velar nasal voiced frictionless continuant, that the **n** in **nong** is an alveolar nasal voiced frictionless continuant and that the **ny** in **nyakega** is a palatal nasal voiced frictionless continuant consonant. These differences will obviously assist in maintaining the correct pronunciation.

The most important thing is not to describe various letters of alphabet according to the manner and place of articulation, but it is to ensure that different lemmata are properly pronounced.

It may not be possible for lexicographers to indicate pronunciation of all lemmata in a dictionary. What is more applicable is to indicate pronunciation for lemmata that are likely to give dictionary users problems. It is worrying to notice that in the *Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006), even those lemmata that seem to be problematic to pronounce, are not dealt with regarding how to pronounce them. The following are examples of such lemmata:

popopolelo	*n*	grammar	p.85
pšhasola	v	beat; usually using a palm of hand	p.86
phethagatša	v	fulfil; perform	p.83
sehlabathakana	*n*	a peer song	p.94
sekhukhuni	*n*	stealthy – creeper; creeper	p.95
tshwantšhokgopolo	*n*	imagery; imagination; image	p.115
tsošološa	v	renew; revive; renovate; rebuild; renaissance	p.116

tšokotša v shake; rinse   p.116

The presentation of the above lemmata is not satisfying. It would be appreciated if their pronunciation was indicated. Dictionary users are likely to miss out their correct pronunciation. The following presentation, which includes the pronunciation, should be more acceptable:

popôpolêlô [p′op′□p′olɛl□] noun. grammar

pšhasola [p□hasola] verb. boat, usually using a palm of hand

phêthagatša [phɛtha□at□′a] verb. fulfil; perform

sehlabathakana [se¢aβathak′ana] noun. a peer song

sekhukhuni [s□khukhuni] noun. stealthy-creeper; creeper

tshwantšhôkgopolô [tshwant□h□kxhopol□] noun. imagery;
                                imagination; image

tsošološa [ts′o□olo□a] verb. renew; revive; renovate; rebuild;
renaissance

tšokotša [t□′ok′ot□′a] verb shake; rinse

The treatment of the above lemmata serves as a guide on how pronunciation can be indicated.

4.3 PARTS OF SPEECH

Richard et al (1992:266) define parts of speech as:

a traditional term to describe the different types of word which are used to form sentences, such as noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction, interjection.

In most cases, when dictionary users consult a dictionary, they are looking for meanings of lemmata, either in the form of translation equivalents or definitions. It would be ideal if they at the same time learn more things about an individual lemma, such as parts of speech. It would be appreciated if dictionaries under research mention something about parts of speech of most lemmata in their entries.

4.3.1 *CONCISE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY* (2006)

In the *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), lexicographers played their part in ensuring that the issue of parts of speech is dealt with fully. The dictionary uses the following abbreviation for different parts of speech:

v.	verb
n.	noun
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverb
conj.	conjunction
prep.	preposition
pro	pronoun

The use of the above abbreviations is evident throughout the whole dictionary. The principle followed is that a lemma is succeeded by its guide to pronunciation where applicable, and thereafter follows the parts of speech. Alternatively, if pronunciation is not included, the

individual lemma is followed immediately by the type of part of speech. The following are examples of lemmata with the indication of parts of speech.

billon / ˈbɪlən / ■n …   p.133

jurat / ˈd□□ərat / ■n …   p.771

discriminate / dɪˈskrɪmɪneɪt / ■v 1. recognize …   p.410

chota / ˈt□ə□tə / ■adj. …   p.253

duck[1] ■n. (p1. same or ducks)   p.441

jukebox ■n. a machine that automatically …   p.769

malignant ■adj. 1 evil; malevolent.   p.863

bespatter ■v. spatter with liquid   p.127

palm[2] ■v. 1 conceal (a small object) in the hand … p.1031

afternoon ■adv. (afternoons) (informal) in the afternoon; …
                                                     p.23

Dictionary users will be in a better position to learn whether a particular lemma is a verb, a noun, or an adjective.

4.3.2 *OXFORD ADVANCED LEARNER'S DICTIONARY* (2006)

Some of the parts of speech that are dealt with in the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), are adjectives, adverbs, nouns and verbs. Abbreviations are used for adjective (adj.) and adverb (adv.) otherwise nouns and verbs are written in full.

There are incidents where one lemma can be used as different parts of speech. The following lemma shows a situation where it can be used as adj., adv., noun and verb:

stiff / sti𝑓 / adj., adv., noun, verb   p.1451

Lemmata can be used as both the adjective and noun. Here is an example of a lemma that can be used as both an adjective and a noun:

absolute / æbsəlu☐t / adj., noun   p.5

The following are examples of lemmata that belong to different types of parts of speech:

absolutely / æbsəlu:tli / adv.   p.5

initially / ɪˊnɪ☐əli / adv.   p.767

base / beɪs / noun, verb, adj.   p.107

initial / ɪˊnɪ☐l / adj., noun, verb   p.767

cache / kæ ☐ / noun, verb
p.199

ninny /ˊnɪni / noun (pl. – ies) …   p.989

If lemmata are dealt with accordingly with regardly to parts of speech, like the above examples, one gets the sense that indeed the dictionary is a reference book.

4.3.3 *PHAROS POPULAR NORTHERN SOTHO DICTIONARY*

The first section of *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996), presents lemmata in Northern Sotho, that is, it is used as the source language, while English is used as the target language. In this section, lemmata and their translation equivalents are given, but the dictionary is silent about mentioning the different parts of speech of individual lemma.

It is only in the second section of this dictionary in which English is used as source language and Northern Sotho used as target language, where an indication is made with regard to different types of parts of speech.

The following abbreviations are used immediately after the lemma in question:

Prep., adv., n, v, aux verb, conj and adj.

There is no guide in the dictionary as to what these abbreviations stand for, but the researcher assumes that **prep** stands for **preposition**, **adv** stands for **adverb**, **n** stands for **noun**, **v** stands for **verb**, **aux verb** stands for **auxiliary verb**, **conj** for **conjunction** and **adj** for **adjective.**

Most lemmata have been addressed with regard to parts of speech. The following lemmata and the different parts of speech will be used as example:

about prep., ka, ka ga; adv., go ~ dikologa   p.181

accessory adj., gotee le; n., modirišani, mosenyiši   p.181

assent v., dumêla, n., tumêlô   p.188

also gapê, le gôna; aux verb., bilê; conj., le   p.185

There are many such examples from the dictionary under discussion; the few examples are selected for illustrative purposes.

4.3.4 *SESOTHO SA LEBOA / ENGLISH PUKUNTŠU DICTIONARY* **(2006)**

Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary (2006), is one of the few dictionaries in these languages, and one of the most well presented dictionaries. Both Northern Sotho and English are treated equally, as source languages and as target languages.

There is a guide on how to use the dictionary. The dictionary uses abbreviations which represent parts of speech. The following are some of the abbreviations used:

adj - lehlaodi (adjective)

adv - lehlathi (adverb)

n - leina (noun)

v - lediri (verb)

con - lekopanyi (conjunction)

pro - lešalaina (pronoun)

prep - letlema (preposition)

These abbreviations are written immediately after the lemma to indicate the type of part of speech. Lemmata which are verbs are shown in the following manner:

hlakiša	v	make suffer; abuse torment	p.25
lora	v	dream	p.49
able	v	kgona	p.122
glance	v	gadima; bekenya; phadima	p.151

The following lemmata are nouns, and this is how they are presented in *Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006):

kgarebe   *n* young lady; virgin; maiden; grown up girl who is

ready for marriage   p.31

mpherefere *n* trouble; riot; rebellion; quarrel   p.71

girl   *n* mosetsana; ngwanenyana   p.151

slyness   *n* boradi; bofeane; bohwirihwiri; bosawana   p.189

There are as well lemmata that are adjectives and others that are adverbs. These are just example of such:

bohle adj. all; everybody   p.9

bofefo adj light; not heavy; thinness; swift   p.8

dark adj leswiswi   p.139

slow adj nanya   p.189

kgakala adv far; distant; outside far away   p.31

lapeng adv in the courtyard; at home   p.40

long ago adv kgalekgale; kgale; kgale kudu   p.167

yonder adv ka moo; ka kua   p.206

It may not be possible to include all examples in this study; the few examples that are included are used to drive a point home. The question of parts of speech is well addressed in the above dictionary. This should definitely be of use to dictionary users.

4.4 CONCLUSION

It is crucial that lexicographers should as far as possible provide in their dictionaries, all the most useful information dictionary users may require. These include pronunciation of lemmata and parts of speech.

This chapter has investigated whether the four dictionaries under research have done justice to the above aspects. The researcher has discovered that in the two English monolingual dictionaries namely, *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006) and *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), lexicographers have done their best, to ensure that pronunciation of lemma is addressed. The two other dictionaries, namely *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1995) and *Sesotho sa Leboa – English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006), do not have a guide to accepted pronunciation, and this is contrary to what happens in the other two English monolingual dictionaries under research.

The study has revealed that the International Phonetic Alphabet is the convenient way to indicate pronunciation as opposed to respelling. Transcribing lemmata phonetically is another way to show pronunciation of lemmata.

The research has shown that there is something in common which the four dictionaries under discussion share, and that is they all handle the question of parts of speech. Parts of speech are either written in full or are abbreviated. There is a guide in each dictionary, on how parts of

speech are shown, except in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996), where abbreviations are used, but there is no guide as to what these abbreviations stand for.

CHAPTER FIVE

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This is the concluding chapter of the study. It summarises the other chapters of this study. There are findings and also recommendations.

5.2 SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS

Chapter One, the introductory part of this study, indicated the reasons for the study to be undertaken. The objectives of the study, the rationale, the significance of the study, the research methodology and the scope of the research, are discussed.

Chapter Two deals with literature review. The main aim of the chapter, is to review the work done by other scholars on the topic of research.

The work which is related to this research is discussed in detail. Important terms, that are found in the research such as microstructure, cross-referencing, pronunciation, parts of speech and reference entries are dealt with in this section of the research.

Chapter Three discusses the role of microstructure of dictionaries with particular reference to cross-referencing. The following dictionaries are compared in terms of cross-referencing: *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006), *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996) and *Sesotho sa Leboa-English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2005)

Among other things, the study looks at cross-referencing of synonym lemmata, lemmata that are polysemous in sense, antonyms, lemmata with contrasting meanings, and lemmata with more than one possible spellings, of which all spellings are accepted.

The chapter further examines to what extent has cross referencing been treated. There is also an indication of cross-referencing of lemmata from the dictionaries under discussion, which did not receive any cross-referencing. Cross-referencing is presented as one of the most important aspects of dictionaries, which lexicographers cannot ignore.

Chapter Four addresses pronunciation and parts of speech, as two other important aspects of the microstructure of a dictionary. The definition of pronunciation and its importance are outlined. It is important for a lemma to be correctly pronounced; otherwise its meaning becomes distorted. The two English monolingual dictionaries under discussion provide, in the microstructure, pronunciation of certain lemmata, more especially lemmata that are likely to give users problems. The other two Northern-Sotho-English dictionaries are silent about pronunciation, and this may cause problems.

Parts of speech of every lemma are named in order to give dictionary users more information about the individual lemma.

5.3 FINDINGS

The following are the findings in this research:

- Lexicographers have done their utmost best to do cross-referencing in the following dictionaries: *Concise Oxford English Dictionary* (2006), *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2006) and *Sesotho sa Leboa / English Pukuntšu Dictionary* (2006)

- There is no evidence of cross-referencing in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996)

- The two English monolingual dictionaries have guides on how they are used with regard to cross-referencing.

- The two Northern Sotho-English bilingual dictionaries do not have the guides on how cross-referencing is used.

- The two English monolingual dictionaries have done their best with regard to pronunciation, contrary to this; the other two Northern Sotho-English bilingual dictionaries do not include pronunciation.

- All these dictionaries use words or abbreviations to indicate what type of speech a lemma is, but in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996), only the second section has such indications.

5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

The researcher has the following recommendations to make:

- Cross-referencing has to be done wherever necessary.

- Dictionaries should include a guide on how the dictionary is used, particularly on how cross-referencing is done.

- It is recommended that all dictionaries should include pronunciation of lemmata that are likely to give dictionary users a problem.

- Parts of speech have to be indicated to all lemmata that require it, not only to the second section of the dictionary, like it is the case in *Pharos Popular Northern Sotho Dictionary* (1996).

In order to have user-friendly dictionaries, lexicographers should consider these recommendations.

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