

DISTINCTIVE SYNONYMY IN TRANSLATION DICTIONARIES

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ABSTRACT

Users of translation dictionaries often have problems to make the right lexical choice while translating source language form into another target language. This is mainly due to the lack of information needed to make the appropriate choice during the translation process because the translator , given its work, needs more than a repertoire of equivalents . The purpose of this paper is to solve some of the lexicography and translation issues by discussing the so-called distinctive synonymy and the advantage of its integration into bilingual lexicography. It is an attempt to propose a new bilingual synonym dictionary by developing an original methodology for the active dictionary designed solely and exclusively to the translator . The study concludes that both synonyms and equivalents are salient and relevant data categories in the translation dictionary and that introducing semantic distinction between close synonyms can thoroughly assist the translator in decision making. Therefore, this research opens up some interesting and still little-explored perspectives in bilingual lexicography.

Keywords: Distinctive synonymy, translation dictionaries, bilingual lexicography, near synonyms, equivalents.