Chapter 2

Historical Perspective of Dictionaries

“Dictionaries are like watches, the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true” — Samuel Johnson

2.1 Introduction:

Reference sources are in different types and include catalogs, concordances, dictionaries, directories, discographies and bibliographies, encyclopedia, glossaries, handbooks, indexes, manuals, study instructions, union lists, yearbooks, almanacs, Atlases, Gazetteer, Guide Book, Hand Book Manuals, year books and so on. Dictionaries have been part of every one's life and required to understand the correct meaning of the different terms in different context. The first effort was made by Dr. Samuel Johnson and created “A Dictionary of the English Language “way back in the 1750s. It is commonly noticed that while browsing the reference section of any library or bookstore one can get dictionaries covering different topics like languages, medicine, law, engineering etc. including rhyming dictionaries, multilingual dictionaries, legal dictionaries, dictionaries of symbols, philosophy and so on. (McIntyre : http://ezinearticles.com/)

Dictionary is the most widely known and used as a reference source and includes various types of dictionaries available to users and also known by different names. Dictionaries are the most commonly used reference sources for identifying correct meaning and origin of the word. Among all reference books, they are the oldest and have been in use since a long time. They are widely used for getting meaning of the words. Though basic purpose is to provide the meaning in different context, in addition to these, dictionaries provide synonyms, antonyms, derivation and history, pronunciation, usage, illustrations etc. Hence its utility is universal and has unique importance among the all reference sources.

Each reference source has different coverage and contents and also used as per the requirements. These reference sources are research tools that help users for different purposes. Reference sources provide answers to specific questions, such as brief facts, statistics, and technical instructions; provide background information; or direct to
additional information sources or provide proper meaning of the word for usage. Every reference tool or resource has its own importance viz. Encyclopedia provide general background information; to start researching on a topic for which researcher knows little about. The dictionaries provide information about words as well as origin of the word or its different meanings in different concepts. Dictionaries, like other reference sources, also may belong to more than one category. Directories provide names, addresses, affiliations, etc. of people, organizations, or institutions. Biographical dictionaries contain short articles about people's lives. Geographic information is located in gazetteers, atlases and maps. Almanacs contain statistics and facts about countries, events, personalities, or subjects. Handbooks and manuals are subject area tools. Handbooks provide facts, terms, concepts, movements, etc. of a topic. Bibliographies lead to other information sources. They are lists of books and other materials that provide author, title, and publication information. Annotated bibliographies also include a brief description or summary of the item. Bibliographies are available on almost every topic and may focus on specific persons, groups, subjects, or time periods etc. Many bibliographies are selective and do not attempt to include all publications. Bibliographies are sometimes referred to as "Guides to the Literature. (http://library.uaf.edu/ls101-reference-services).

Reference sources are often the best place to start research because they provide basic information which is useful for the understanding concept of terms. They are helpful in:

- Providing a good introduction to a topic to understand the basic concepts.
- Providing brief, factual information about the terms or words or phrases.
- Summarizing and clarify issues required.
- Defining unfamiliar terms in simple way with illustrations.
- Identifying additional relevant sources such as books and periodical articles on similar issues.
- Acts as an instant referring

Thus reference sources are unique in nature, value and can provide general background information (facts, definitions, dates, details), assistance in focusing topic, quick access to important factual and statistical information, and references to other sources of information. It is therefore a good place to begin research using these tools. The use of encyclopedia and dictionaries are very common and every one in the area of education
and research need the assistance of all the reference sources, but more dependency is on encyclopedia and dictionaries.

2.2 Importance of Dictionaries:

Dictionaries play different role for different users, the main role is in education, learning and teaching, development of concepts, useful to translators, etymologists, machine translations etc. Generally the users are relied on dictionaries as an authoritative source of information. The dictionaries ensure the successful access to information. Dakun (2001) made a detailed study on the usage and role of dictionaries and identified the best role is to assist users especially researchers, students, learners and teachers. The role is to explain the meaning and vocabulary involved in terms and words or phrases. The author also pointed out that dictionaries, whether monolingual or bilingual, play an important role in language learning. Dictionary-users in research studies all tend to show a clear advantage over non-users in the number of words learnt.

Dictionaries have been part of everyone's life and required to understand the correct meaning of the different terms in different context. The first effort was made by Dr. Samuel Johnson and created “A Dictionary of the English Language “way back in the 1750s. It is commonly noticed that while browsing the reference section of any library or bookstore one can get dictionaries, covering different topics like languages, medicine, law, engineering etc. including rhymes dictionaries, multilingual dictionaries, legal dictionaries, dictionaries of signs and symbols, philosophy and so on (Mcintyre: http://ezinearticles.com/). Dictionary is the most widely known and used as a reference source. Among all reference books, they are the oldest and have been in use since a long time. They are widely used for getting meaning of the words. Though basic purpose is to provide the meaning in different context, in addition to these, dictionaries provide synonyms, antonyms, derivation and history, pronunciation, usage, illustrations etc. Hence its utility is universal and has unique importance among the all reference sources.
2.3 Meaning and Definitions:

The word dictionary is derived from the Medieval Latin word “Dictionarium” originated from the Greek term “Dictio” meaning a word or a phrase. Various terms are used synonymically for the word dictionary like Lexicon (Longman Lexicon of Contemporary English / ed. by McArthur). Lexicon was earlier term used and this word was derived from the Greek word “Lexickon” meaning the list of words of ancient languages with meanings. The Greek – English Lexicon is an example of such type of Lexicon. The art of preparation of Lexicon was called as Lexicography i.e. compiling lexicon. The compiler of Lexicon was called as Lexicographer. Lexicology and Lexicography are two branches of Linguistics. Lexicology deals with study of the origin and meaning of words. Lexicography is the art of compiling a dictionary. Hence, Lexicon means ‘a dictionary of the words of a language’. It is generally used for dictionaries of ancient languages viz., Greek, Latin, Syriac, Arabic or Hebrew etc.

Thesaurus is another name popularly used for dictionary and this means the treasury of words. This word is derived form the Greek word. This is the source which gives multiple meaning to the same word (Antonyms). Roget’s thesaurus has its speciality that, the terms are listed in classified order and not in an alphabetical order. Peter Mark Roget was the first person to use ‘thesaurus’ for English dictionary in 1852 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roget's_Thesaurus). Lexicon and thesaurus are known to only library and information science professionals but other means for dictionaries known to common users like dictionaries, word book, vocabulary, etc. which covers the same meaning as list of words in languages or text books and its meaning. The term glossary also used to denote dictionaries, which necessarily implies the list of technical / difficult words. The word Glossary is taken from the Latin word ‘Glassarium’ which means a ‘collection of words peculiar to a field of knowledge’. It explains the technical terms of specific dialect or a subject along with explanations. The examples of glossaries are The A.L.A. Glossary of Library and Information Science / ed. by H.Young. Chicago, American Library Association, 1983 and The Librarian’s Glossary of Terms used in Librarianship and the Book Crafts and Reference book, 4th ed. Deutsch, 1977, Reprinted in Lexington Books in 1982. Vocabulary means a list of words. It is derived from a
Medieval Latin word ‘Vocabularium’. It is often used for a stock of words and phrases with brief explanations and meanings restricted to a single work.

Karisiddappa (1983) has rightly pointed out that dictionary has two missions to perform i.e. primary and secondary. The primary purpose is to indicate the spelling, pronunciation, part of speech, and meanings of words. The secondary approach is concerned with etymology, synonym, geographical terms, phrases, antonyms, abbreviations, acronyms etc. The Oxford English Dictionary defines the term dictionary as a “book dealing with the individual words of a language so as to set forth their orthography, pronunciation, signification and use, their synonyms, derivation and history, or at least some of these facts, for convenience of reference the words are arranged in some stated order, now in most languages, alphabetical, and in larger dictionaries the information given in illustrated by quotations from literature”. A famous English dictionary creator and compiler Samuel Johnson in 1755 in his letter to his friend Fransesco Sastres (August 21, 1784) in 1784 in which he presented a quote related to dictionary as “Dictionaries are like watches; the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true.” (http://www.samueljohnson.com/dictiona.html).

From the definitions it is concluded that dictionary is a reference book consisting of a collection of words of a language or subject arranged in some definite order, mostly alphabetical in its arrangement. Harrod (1977) in librarian’s glossary defines the term dictionary as “A book explaining the words of a language, the words being arranged in alphabetical order, it usually gives the orthography, pronunciation, and meaning of each word. A dictionary of the words in a field of knowledge usually gives only the meaning” (Harrod 1977). The New Encyclopedia Britannica (1977) defined meaning of dictionaries as “A book listing words of a language with their meaning in the same or another language usually in alphabetical order, often with data regarding pronunciation, origin and usages.” Chambers Encyclopedia (Law) (1955) defines dictionary as “A book containing the words of a language, alphabetically arranged with definitions of their meaning and often with examples of their use drawn from speech or from literature, together with indications of their etymology. Murray (1933) defined the term in Oxford English dictionary as “By Extension a book of information or reference on any subject or
branch of knowledge, the items of which are arranged in alphabetical order, an alphabetical encyclopedia, as a dictionary of architecture of biography, of geography, of dates etc.” Winchell (1951) defined the term in detail as “Dictionaries are the main source for getting information about words their spellings, pronunciations, derivations, etc.”

From the above definitions it can be summarized that dictionaries means word books or list of words with meaning and many qualifying aspects arranged alphabetically for the different use by users as per need base.

2.4 Lexicon, Lexicology and Lexicography:

2.4.1 Lexicon:

The word lexicon was derived from the Greek origin “Lexikon” which connotes the meaning as word speaking (Combination of two words Lexis = word and legein= to speak). It is list or stock of terms and words used in a particular profession, subject, or style or vocabulary. The meaning further expanded as a set of all the morphemes of a language and an ancient language words. In short the meaning concluded as, Lexicon refers to a wordbook or dictionary or the vocabulary of a particular language, field, social class, person, etc. as well the total inventory of words or morphemes in a given language. (http://www.thefreedictionary.com/lexicon). It is a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words with information about language user's knowledge of words. Wikipedia highlighted the meaning as a language's inventory of meanings of words. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lexicon)

Vocabulary. com also narrated a suitable definition in which it is stated that “Lexicons are really dictionaries, though a lexicon usually covers an ancient language or the special vocabulary of a particular author or field of study. In linguistics, the lexicon is the total stock of words and word elements that carry meaning. Lexicon is from Greek lexikon (biblion) meaning "word (book)," ultimately going back to legein "to speak." (https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/lexicon). A reference book contains an alphabetical list of words with information about them. Similar meanings are also cited in
Merriam Webster, oxford dictionary etc. Thus meaning connoted for lexicon is a “dictionary of ancient words in a language with meanings of words”

2.4.2 Lexicology:

The meaning expressed by Oxford dictionary and indicated the meaning of lexicology (http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/lexicology) as “lexicology is study of the forms, meanings and behaviors of the words. Lexicology is the part of linguistics which studies words as stated by Wikipedia. Grammar.about.com expressed the term lexicology in a broader way as “Lexicology deals not only with simple words in all their aspects but also with complex and compound words, the meaningful units of language”. Since these units must be analyzed in respect of both their form and their meaning, lexicology relies on information derived from morphology, the study of the forms of words and their components, and semantics, the study of their meanings. A third field of particular interest in lexicological studies is etymology, the study of the origins of words. However, lexicology must not be confused with lexicography, the writing or compilation of dictionaries, which is a special technique rather than a level of language studies (http://grammar.about.com/od/il/g/lexicologyterm.htm). Merriam Webster also defined the meaning as “a branch of linguistics concerned with the signification and application of words” (http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/lexicon). The similar definitions have been given by frredictionary.com etc. Thus the meaning connoted for the lexicology is study the meaning applications of words and morphology of words etc.

2.4.3 Lexicography:


Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lexicography) has summarized the meaning and function of lexicography and elaborated that the Lexicography is divided into two related
disciplines viz. Practical lexicography which is the art or craft of compiling, writing and editing dictionaries. Theoretical lexicography (synonymous term Lexicology), which is the scholarly discipline of analyzing and describing the semantic, syntagmatic and paradigmatic relationships within the lexicon (vocabulary) of a language, developing theories of dictionary components and structures linking the data in dictionaries, the needs for information by users in specific types of situation, and how users may best access the data incorporated in printed and electronic dictionaries. This is sometimes referred to as 'metalexicography'. Thus it is clear that lexicography is making or producing dictionaries.

General lexicography focuses on the design, compilation, use and evaluation of general dictionaries, i.e. dictionaries that provide a description of the language in general use. Such a dictionary is usually called a general dictionary or LGP dictionary (Language for General Purpose). Specialized lexicography focuses on the design, compilation, use and evaluation of specialized dictionaries, i.e. dictionaries that are devoted to a (relatively restricted) set of linguistic and factual elements of one or more specialist subject fields, e.g. legal lexicography. Such a dictionary is usually called a specialized dictionary or LSP dictionary and following Nielsen 1994, specialized dictionaries are either multi-field, single-field or sub-field dictionaries. The term Lexicography is coined in English 1680, and the word "lexicography" derives from the Greek word lexikographos.

2.5 Difference between a Dictionary and a Lexicon:

A dictionary is a book of alphabetically listed words in a specific language, with definitions, etymologies, pronunciations, and other information. In linguistics, the lexicon (from Greek Λεξικόν) of a language is its vocabulary, including its words and expressions. More formally, it is a language's inventory of lexemes (it roughly corresponds to a set of forms taken by a single word). Each human being possesses a mental lexicon (which is that person's knowledge of vocabulary). The most essential difference between the two is that in a dictionary one can find the undemulified or unconjugated form of the headword, while in the lexicon you find all the possible forms of a word (in the singular, in the plural, the adjective form...).
2.6 Difference between a Dictionary, a Lexicon, and a Glossary:

All are the reference books and these reference books have slightly difference in denotations. A glossary is a specialized vocabulary with definitions but does not provide other information about the words. A glossary may also be called a vocabulary. A lexicon is generally an alphabetically-arranged list of words with their definitions, but the term does not imply that other information about the words is included. However, a lexicon can be used to mean glossary or dictionary, in which case it would contain what each of those words' definitions entail. Lexicon is considered by some to be a more formal word for dictionary. A dictionary is a reference book consisting of an alphabetically-arranged list of words with their definitions, as well as any or all of these: forms (spellings), pronunciations, functions (parts of speech), etymologies, and syntactical and idiomatic uses. So, dictionary is usually reserved for the more comprehensive type of word book. Lexicon's etymology is Greek, while dictionary's is Latin.

Dictionaries are necessary reference tool for all common and advanced learners of Sanskrit language. Dictionaries are useful for getting grammatical information and meaning of words, collocations, spellings, pronunciations, context and etymology of words. Thus dictionaries are one of the essential reference tools and act as a reference book or tool having collection of words listed alphabetically in a particular vocabulary, with all feasible explanation, pronunciations, synonyms, antonyms, and related as well as contrasted phrases. It is also used for language interpretation and language translation along with benefits to learners and teachers. Some of significant features of a dictionaries tend to be specific in nature and defines words and terms; confirms spelling, definition, and pronunciation; used to find out how words are used; helps to locate synonyms and antonyms and to trace the origin of words (e.g. Webster's Dictionary). Every subject has its own dictionaries prepared for different usage.

Dictionaries can be classified into different types on the basis of several criteria, varying from the nature of the lexical entry to the prospective user of the dictionary. Below are presented some main criteria for the classification of dictionaries.
1) Density of entries: whether the word list is general or restricted and special? Does it also cover regional and social dialects, jargons and slangs and archaisms?

2) The number of languages involved: monolingual, bilingual, multilingual etc.

3) The nature of entries: whether lexical only or also encyclopedic, the degree of concentration on strictly lexical data.

4) Axis of time: whether diachronic (dynamic) or synchronic (static).

5) Arrangement of entries: alphabetical or semantic or causal.

6) Purpose: whether normative or referential.

7) The prospective user: whether meant for the general reader to find out general linguistic information or for special users to know some special aspects of the lexical unit say etymology etc. Is it meant for the general language or only for the language of literature, there too, the language of some author, here again the language of some of his works?

Although a typological classification is essential and has been attempted by many writers, it is impossible to delimit the types into a strict water-tight frame work. While analyzing any entry from any dictionary it is found that many characteristics of different types of dictionaries have been included in it. It is observed that there is a large amount of overlapping in different types of dictionaries. But although there is no clear cut division between the scope and the coverage of the dictionaries, there are dictionaries with definite focus on some major aspect of the language.

2.7 Users and Uses of Dictionaries:

Users of dictionaries are all related to education, teaching and researchers since their childhood to develop the language as well as use the words appropriately. The dictionary serves a very useful purpose. Dictionaries are frequently consulted by the different users due to following utilities.

- to find meanings of words and terms as well as check the pronunciation, verify spellings and noting the syllabication of words
• to track the origin, derivations, history of a word and indicate dialect of words and correct usage of a word

• to find out abbreviations, acronyms, signs, symbols, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms etc for a word, phrase etc

• Pictorial, multimedia and electronic dictionaries are now more useful and offer best use of dictionaries for getting information quickly.

The use of dictionary is based on the need of users and accordingly the dictionaries are selected by the users. However the maximum use is related to finding meaning, origin of words, standard spelling, and translation purpose.

2.8 Types of Dictionaries:

The dictionaries cover almost all fields of knowledge. Dictionaries are divided into different categories depending upon their nature, scope, function, purpose, usefulness or applicability and language etc. Usually, librarians categorize dictionaries into the following four groups, as it facilitates them in administration and organization of reference unit. (http://www.cemca.org/braou/subject03/uodtext.pdf). In Library profession dictionaries are also grouped according to physical form, contents, usefulness etc and following groups are preferred.

1) General Language Dictionaries
2) Subject Dictionaries
3) Translating Dictionaries
4) Special Purpose Dictionaries

According to physical form victories are grouped as under:

1) Abridged Dictionaries
2) Semi-abridged Dictionaries and
3) Unabridged Dictionaries
Scholars have grouped the dictionaries in different groups but on an average the above grouping is common in practice. Zugusta (1971) added Encyclopedic Dictionaries, and used term Linguistic dictionaries for general language dictionaries. He further divided Linguistic dictionaries in to Diachronic, synchronic, General, and special dictionaries.

2.8.1 General Dictionaries:

The General dictionaries deal with common words of a language pertaining to all fields of knowledge. These are the most popular and readily used dictionaries. They are again classified into four groups according to the purpose, size, volume and user’s age.

a) According to Purpose (This is further divided in to Prescriptive and Descriptive)

b) According to Size (This is further divided in to unabridged and Semi-abridged)

c) According to Volume (This is further divided in to Single volume and Multi volume)

d) According to User’s Age (This is further divided in to Adult, Junior and Children)

Basically the purpose of compilation of dictionaries is to set authoritative standards for spelling, pronunciation, meaning and usage as well as to record the words of a language with their spellings, meaning and uses etc. The dictionaries compiled with the first purpose are called as prescriptive and these dictionaries include only standard and approved words worthy of use. They avoid slang, coined or borrowed expressions. e.g. Dr. Samuel Johnson’s Dictionary of English Language. The dictionaries compiled with the second purpose are known as ‘Descriptive’. They include all the words that are collected and recorded from contemporary sources of literature, popular, literary and technical journals and magazines and newspapers. e.g. Oxford English Dictionary; Webster’s Third new International Dictionary.

U.K. and U.S. are the main countries of the world for publishing all types of dictionaries. The four big dictionary houses in U.K. are Oxford, Collins, Longman and Chambers. Now, Cassell is also emerging as one of the big dictionary houses. On the other hand in
U.S.A., Webster and Funk & Wagnals are leading publishing of dictionaries. More and more publishing houses are joining this enterprise. The standards of the new comers are high. The established dictionaries meet new challenges with improved editions. The future user may have wider choice and higher qualities of dictionaries. Oxford family of dictionaries published from England by Clarendon Press at Oxford and Webster’s family of dictionaries published form America by G and C Merriam at Springfield, Massachusetts. The general dictionary, as stated earlier, covers the total language. The dictionary of any size may be a general dictionary. It contains words from all spheres of human activities and all areas of the life of the speakers of the language.

The general dictionaries are of two types:
(a) Academic or normative dictionary,
(b) Referential or overall descriptive dictionary.

The academic dictionary gives the lexical stock of the standard language. The aim of this dictionary is to present the language as it is expected to be and stop it from decay. It has an eye on the future usage of the language. The selection of entries is done from the works of the creative writers, may be both earlier and contemporary, literature of science, arts etc., newspapers, magazines and other materials which are considered representative of the standard language. These dictionaries do not contain words of local or regional variation. Such words are included in the dictionaries only when they have been used by some writers and have been standardized in the language. Archaic and obsolete words used by creative writers are also included in them. The whole data in the dictionary represents a self contained and homogenous system. The chief feature of such dictionaries is their inclusion of profuse illustrative examples form the corpus with or without citations. Different types of dictionaries including dictionaries of technical terms, grammatical dictionary, the spelling dictionary etc., come under this group. The referential or overall descriptive dictionary does not have any normative aim. The word stock of this dictionary is selected from different heterogeneous speech groups. The corpus includes not only literary texts but also oral literature. It contains words of regional, social and stylistic variations.
According to Shcherba (1995) a reference dictionary is "one behind which does not lie any unified language consciousness. The collected words may belong to heterogeneous speech groups of different periods and which do not in the least form a system" (Srivastava 1968. 120). From the point of view of coverage of languages dictionaries can be monolingual (or explanatory), bilingual and multilingual. But any type of dictionary described earlier can be either monolingual or bilingual.

In a monolingual dictionary both the entry words and their definitions or meanings are given in the same language. They may also be called explanatory dictionaries, although the latter term has assumed a special signification. The term monolingual refers to the language only irrespective of the information given in it. Some dictionaries may just give word lists and their meanings and may be monolingual dictionary. The explanatory dictionary, on the contrary, gives more information about different aspects of the lexical unit-script, pronunciation, grammar, meaning, etymology and profuse illustrations. These dictionaries are meant for the native speakers and "the target set for creating Explanatory Dictionary aims at native speakers with a view to explain one or the other lexical items which might be half known or totally unknown to them" (Srivastava 1968. 124) Most of the bigger dictionaries in all the well known languages are explanatory in nature.

2.8.2 Subject Dictionaries:

The dictionaries which deal with terms of a particular subject field are known as subject dictionaries. The rapid growth and development, and specifications in all the fields of knowledge has resulted in growth and use of the new words or specialized terms for which the general dictionaries do not provide adequate information. Therefore, it necessitated to compile subject dictionaries which are devoted completely to specific subject fields. As a result many subject dictionaries and glossaries in Humanities, Social Sciences and Science & Technology are coming out day-by-day.

Subject dictionaries contain highly specialized technical terms of a particular subject. The terms are coined, adopted, synthesized and invented by specialist of the subject and also provides descriptive information on the technical term. Such dictionaries are compiled by
the subject experts and revised frequently and kept updated. Subject dictionaries are essential part of the reference library. These dictionaries are also found in various forms like unabridged or abridged, single or multivolume, bilingual or multilingual.

There are some leading publishers bringing out dictionaries on various subjects like McGraw-Hill, Elsevier, Penguin, etc. They have published popular series of subject dictionaries in various disciplines. Always the new terms are coined or borrowed or added to the subject fields. Therefore, the subject dictionaries need regular revisions and bring out new editions otherwise, dictionaries become obsolete. They are encyclopedic in nature since they provide explanations and accurate definitions of technical terms, contain bibliographies and include eminent subject specialists, names and address of agencies and institutions belonging to the particular subject field and provide illustrations too. The examples are


This is amazingly comprehensive dictionary, which has been a standard international reference, containing more than 115,000 terms and 125,000 definitions--from 100 areas of science and technology--this trusted resource provides definitions written in clear, simple language, understandable to the general reader, yet is consistent with the specialized use of the term. The new entries are introduced in new editions and 6 the edition has incorporated 5000 new terms in it. The entries are complemented by 3,000 illustrations; appendices containing biographic listings, conversion tables, taxonomic classification charts etc. The only dictionary of scientific and technical terms to be thumb-indexed and Invaluable to scientists, researchers, teachers, students, as well as interested lay persons and is truly the single best way for anyone to gain fluency in the language of science.


This reference dictionary takes a new approach to the study focusing on the concepts involved in physical or biological anthropology, which is a synthetic discipline borrowed much from evolutionary biology, anatomy, genetics, medicine, zoology, paleontology, and demography. Thus, although none of the concepts are unique to the discipline, their relative importance and the contexts in which they are used are highlighted. The concise entries are presented describing the development of physical anthropological concepts followed by bibliographies including most of the major works in the field. The comprehensive bibliographies enable the reader to pursue further study of concepts of particular interest. Indispensable to students just
beginning their studies in the field, the dictionary is a valuable reference for scholars and researchers.


This dictionary is an authoritative source of precise and easy to understand definitions of words, terms, and phrases that are used in the fields of Human Resource Management, Personnel, and Industrial Relations etc. The source covers latest terms and management buzzwords, key theoretical terms and concepts from academics and consultants, technical terms used by practicing personnel/H.R. managers and trade unionists, major policies, practices, and institutions, thematic categorization of the main concepts, cross-referencing of entries etc. The second edition of the Dictionary of Human Resource Management is a vital companion for students and practitioners in H.R.M., Personnel, and Industrial Relations.


This dictionary contains more than 17,000 terms currently in use in the fields of biochemistry and molecular biology. Entries are uniformly concise, most complex topics. In a single alphabet, the dictionary includes topics and methods, chemical substances, and brief biographical entries of key scientists. The only illustrations are structure diagrams of the more complex chemical compounds. Appendixes help the reader to understand scientific nomenclature and Greek symbols, list organizations and Web sites of interest in the field, and cover current hot topics in biochemistry.


This is a compilation of technical data and descriptive information covering thousands of chemicals and chemical phenomena, trade name products, processes, reactions, products, and related terminology. The dictionary updates and expands the coverage from the previous editions and adds entries for notable chemists and Nobel Prize winners, equipment and devices, natural forms and minerals, named reactions, and chemical processes etc., provides concise, condensed, and prompt definitions of terms and phenomena in Chemistry, Biology, Biochemistry, and more. It ideals for those with only minutes to devote to any given chemical substance or topic.

6) Dictionary of computing (Oxford University Press.2008)

This dictionary has been fully revised by a team of computer specialists, making it the most up-to-date and authoritative guide to computing, the expanded coverage of networking and databases, feature spreads on key topics, and the addition of
biographical entries etc. It is a comprehensive reference work encompassing all aspects of the subject. The dictionary contains over 6,500 entries and valuable for use at home and office, for students of computing. Web links for many entries and websites are provided for getting valuable information. It also contains coverage of computer terms in industry, school, work, education, and the home, including the Internet, multimedia, networks and databases, and security. This dictionary is suitable for anyone who uses computers, and is ideal for students of computing and the related fields of IT, Maths, physics, media communications, electronic engineering, and natural sciences.

Thus in every subject and for every language the dictionaries are made available for the use.

2.8.3 Translating Dictionaries:

The Translating Dictionaries are not confined to one language like monolingual general dictionaries. They deal with words of two or more languages. Therefore they are also known as inter-lingual dictionaries. There are three types of translating dictionaries:

a) Bi-lingual Dictionaries
b) Tri-lingual Dictionaries
c) Multi-lingual Dictionaries or polyglot Dictionaries

The dictionaries giving equivalent words in two languages are called Bilingual Dictionaries. Bilingual dictionaries are available for nearly every combination of popular languages. They also often exist between language pairs. The dictionaries which give equivalent words in three languages are known as Trilingual Dictionaries and the dictionaries providing equivalent words in four or more languages are Multi-lingual Dictionaries or Polyglot Dictionaries. In a multilingual dictionary, look up for a word or phrase in one language and are presented with the translation in several languages. Multilingual dictionaries can be arranged alphabetically or words can be grouped by topic. When grouped by topic, it is common for a multilingual dictionary to be illustrated. Special Features of translating dictionaries are, they do not define words but gives accurate equivalent words in one or more languages have limited vocabulary, do not cover historical or etymological details etc. The examples are:
1) Collins Bilingual Dictionaries in French, Spanish, German, Italian to English

Collins is a Pioneer in dictionary publishing since 1819 in different languages. Collins new two-way bilingual pocket dictionaries are perfect for English-speakers learning Arabic, Japanese, Turkish, Vietnamese, Korean and Mandarin Chinese, and for learners of English from these native tongues. These are very resource ful for the migrants and learning foreign languages.

2) Pocket Oxford German Dictionary: German English.

Oxford University Press is best contributor in developing different foreign Language dictionaries to English. i.e. French, Spanish, Irish, etc. Essential vocabulary, clear translations, usage and grammar help is the speciality of these dictionaries.

3) Practical Sanskrit - English Dictionary, by Apte V S Prasad Prakashan Pune 1957-59 (In three volumes)

This dictionary is bilingual and includes Devanagari and roman alphabets. In order to display the non-roman characters a Unicode font is installed. Information and instructions are available on the Font help page.


This dictionary is multilingual and efforts made to provide meanings of Sanskrit words and terms in to Hindi, English languages.


2.8.4 Special Dictionaries:

The dictionaries compiled to deal with special purpose and aspects of language are called Special Dictionaries. Some of them cater to special class of persons. They deal with special aspects of the words much more comprehensively than the general dictionaries. The special dictionaries are divided into three groups according to their content and scope.

a) Dictionaries covering specific linguistic aspect of words (e.g. Dictionary of Pronunciation, Punctuation, Spelling, synonyms, Acronyms and Antonyms, Usage, Etymological, Abbreviations and Historical)
b) Dictionaries covering a special type or class of words (Dictionary of Slang words, New words, Difficult words, Abbreviations, Dialect words, Obsolete words, Names, Cross word Puzzles, Signs, Terminologies and symbols, Anagrams)

c) Dictionaries dealing with literary aspects and catering to special group of persons (Dictionary of Folktales, Rhymic words, Idioms, Proverb, Quotations, Phrases, Foreign Terms, Gradus, Nursery Rhymes, Concordances, Characters)

Examples:


  This type of dictionary provides the information about grammar and punctuation that people need on a day-to-day basis and covers terms included in making it useful for teachers in primary and secondary schools. Contains longer feature entries on a wide range of tricky issues, such as the difference between active and passive, and hyphens


  This dictionary covers all the essential information about how to use correct, appropriate English in everyday situations and provide up-to-date guidance on questions of English usage, based on the latest analysis of the Oxford English Corpus. Over 600 entries on common language and grammar issues that people are uncertain about in handy A-Z sequence and more than 20 special features on troublesome subjects such as hyphenation or Latin plurals

Few more examples in this category are:

- Oxford Dictionary of Phrase, Saying, and Quotation and Oxford Quotations by Subject.
- Dictionary of Idioms, Proverbs, Word Origins etc. Faber, 2006
The special dictionaries are classified under different heads by different scholars e.g. word lists, lexical units, semantic aspects, collocational value and special lexical units.

The special dictionaries may be classed into the following groups on the basis of the nature of their word lists:-

(1) Their coverage in special geographical regions, social dialects or special spheres of human activity,

(2) Their formal shape,

(3) Their semantic aspect and their relational value in the lexical stock of the language

(4) Their collocational value,

(5) Special language units and others.

The first group of special dictionaries based on word list includes,

(a) dialects,

(b) technical terms - glossaries
(c) special professions, arts and crafts etc.,
(d) slangs, jargons and argot etc.

(a) Dialect Dictionaries:

Dialect dictionaries present all the characteristic of a general dictionary in their description of the lexical units. But they deal with the word stock of a particular geographical region or social group. The dictionaries usually contain words not found in the standard language i.e. words which are variations of the standard form, or words whose meanings are restricted to a particular area or social group. The preparation of these dictionaries is generally associated with dialect surveys. The entries are selected from the data collected on the basis of extensive field work, preparation of linguistic atlases, recording of all the regional variations of the lexical units etc.

There are different methods of presentation. Sometimes one of the variants is selected as the head word on the basis of standard, frequency and universality of the variant, and all other variants are given in the entry. Such regional or social variations are labeled suitably. The other information provided is regarding the grammatical category, meaning and profuse examples illustrating the use of the lexical units. In some dictionaries all the lexical units are given as head words and their distribution in different regions is shown. Examples are given form these regions. (Wright 1898). The dialect dictionary may either deal with only one dialect or may contain variations from many dialects. Under the category of dialect dictionaries may be included the dictionaries of regionalisms. E.g. A Dictionary of Canadianisms. Barrelhouse words: A blue dialect dictionary (Calt, S. University of Illinois. 2009)

(b) Dictionary of Technical Terms:

Such dictionaries deal with technical terms in a language. Terminology is a major and vital part of the vocabulary of any language. These dictionaries are generally prepared by special bodies and commissions formed specially for the purpose. They contain either terms peculiar to a particular subject field or general words with special meanings for

(c) **Special professions, arts and crafts etc:** Closely related to the dictionaries of technical terms are those of different professions, trades, crafts, sports etc. These dictionaries present words peculiar to a particular profession e.g. Dictionary of fishing terms etc. Many dictionaries of agriculture terms have been compiled in India; Grieson's Behar Peasant Life is a good example of professional dictionary. Dictionaries: The Art and Crafts of Lexicography (Landau, S I. Cambridge University Press. 2001)

(d) **Slangs, Jargons and Argot etc.** Not very far removed form these dictionaries are the dictionaries of slangs, jargons, argot etc. These dictionaries contain closed set of words used by a particular class of people. These words are either newly coined words or general words with some new special and secret meaning attached to them. In both cases the secrecy of the word is strictly maintained and is considered a taken of group solidarity. Any violations in the norms results in the disowning of the person in the group. Oxford Dictionary of Slangs, Oxford University Press 2003 is an example of such dictionaries.

Special Dictionaries are also classified on the basis of the formal aspects of the lexical units and are of the following types:
(a) Spelling or orthographical dictionaries,
(b) Pronouncing dictionaries,
(c) Word formation dictionaries (including dictionaries of roots, verbs etc.),
(d) Dictionaries of homonyms,
(e) Dictionaries of paronyms,
(f) Grammatical dictionaries,
(g) Reverse dictionaries
(h) Dictionaries of abbreviations, acronyms etc.

(a) **Spelling or orthographical dictionaries:** These dictionaries provide spelling of words with their phonetic variants. They give tones, stress and accents also, wherever
relevant. To this group belong dictionaries which give information whether words would be written together or separately. These dictionaries are normative in character and are used as reference points for correct spelling. The general dictionaries are also refereed for correct spelling, especially by the foreigners. But the orthographical dictionaries differ from the general dictionaries in not giving any other information than spelling e.g. Oxford English Dictionary.

(b) **Pronouncing dictionaries:** These dictionaries record contemporary pronunciation. They are also normative and are referred to for correct pronunciation. The information supplied in these dictionaries is different form the general dictionaries. They present variant pronunciation as well as the pronunciation of grammatical forms along with meanings. Cambridge English Pronouncing dictionary (Ed Jones, D et al. Cambridge University Press 2011) is an ideal example of such type of dictionaries.

(c) **Word formation or derivational dictionaries:** These give different word forming elements viz., prefixes, suffixes etc. Some of the learner's dictionaries attain the nature of word formation dictionaries is so far as they give lists of prefixes and suffixes. To this class belong the dictionaries of roots, verbs etc. Whitney's Dictionary of Sanskrit verb root belongs to this class. The Dhatupaha of Panini is a dictionary of this group. Similarly Russian Derivational Dictionary (Worth, D S Elsevier Science limited 1970) and Word Stems: A Dictionary (Kennedy, J Soho Press 2003) are few more examples of these categories of dictionaries.

(d) **Dictionaries of homonyms:** Present the homonyms of a language. Some of them give illustrative examples also. e.g. Dictionary of Homonyms, Wordsworth Reference Series, Wordsworth Editions Limited, 2007, ed. by Rothwell, D.

(e) **Dictionaries of paronyms:** Generally give paronyms in the language. Such dictionaries give a word which, is derivative of another and has related meaning with similar pronunciation but different meaning. e.g. Accept and Except; Collision and Collusion
(f) **Grammatical dictionaries:** These dictionaries are prepared to serve as guide or help book for the understanding of (correct) grammatical system of the language. This is more helpful, when the grammatical system of the language is very difficult and complex. In a grammatical dictionary, the whole grammatical structure of the language is given in the introduction. The different grammatical categories and paradigms are numbered. These numbers are given for gender, type of declension etc. These dictionaries are very useful for teachers of the language. e.g. A Dictionary of Grammatical Terms in Linguistics (Ed Trask R L. Routlage 1996)

(g) **Reverse dictionaries:** In Reverse dictionaries the entry words are arranged in the alphabetical order of their final letters. Their earlier counterparts are the Rhyming dictionaries which were prepared as tools of aid for the poets for composing poems as rhyming was very important for the purpose. The scope of these dictionaries has become very wide at present. In these dictionaries words with similar endings appear at one place which give a sort of grammatical specification. Identical word forming suffixes and identical compound forming components are put at one place. These are very useful for preparing teaching materials and manuals. e.g. Illustrated Reverse Dictionary (Ed Kahn J E Readers Digest 1997)

(h) **Dictionaries of abbreviations and acronyms:** they present the abbreviations and acronyms commonly used in a language. Many dictionaries give list of common abbreviations as appendices. e.g. Medical abbreviations and acronyms, Inc. BarCharts, 2002.

The dictionaries are also classified on the basis of their semantic aspect and their relational value in the lexical stock of the language and these are of the following types:
(a) Dictionary of synonyms,
(b) Dictionary of antonyms,
(c) Ideographical or ideological dictionary,
(d) Dictionary of frequency counts.
(a) **The dictionaries of synonyms**: Give the list of synonyms (near synonyms to be more specific). Sometimes this dictionary simply enumerates the different synonyms of particular lexical items but sometimes they are accompanied by illustrative examples of the occurrence of the synonyms. These dictionaries help in finding the finer distinctions of meaning of a particular lexical unit in terms of its relation to the other members of the group. They are useful for the writers to find out a proper word in writing. For learners these dictionaries are useful as they provide information on relation of words. Indian languages have a rich tradition of the dictionaries of synonyms. Starting from nighantu, through Amarakosa, Halayudha and Hemacandra to the present times there is long history of the compilation of dictionaries of synonyms in India. Most of the Indian languages have a number of dictionaries of synonyms. e.g. Oxford Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms by Oxford University Press, 2007.

(b) **The dictionaries of antonyms**: Such dictionaries give antonyms in a language and can be useful in finding out finer sense distinctions of polysemous and synonymous words. e.g. Oxford Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms by Oxford University Press, 2007.

(c) **The Ideographic or ideological Dictionaries**: these types of dictionaries are also called ‘systemic dictionaries’, present words which are semantically related. They are grouped according to concept words or content words. "Lexical items in Ideographic Dictionaries are grouped into families where each one of them stands for one particular psychological dimension". (Srivastava 1968, 124). Dictionaries of synonyms are in one sense one of the sub-types of Ideographical Dictionaries. e.g. Ideographic dictionaries (C Morkovkin v v 1970) and Ideological dictionary of Russian Language ( Baranov, O S Izd-vo ETS, 1995)

(d) **The dictionaries of frequency counts**: Presents the frequency of the lexical units in a language. They usually represent a special corpus of reading material and are useful for the preparation of children's dictionaries, learner's dictionaries, teaching material etc. e.g. A frequency Dicitonary of Contemporary American English. (Routledge Frequency Dictionaries) (Routledge 2010)
Special dictionaries classified on the basis of their value of a collocation as follows:

a) Dictionary of Collocations

b) Dictionaries of usages

a) **Dictionaries of collocations:** these dictionaries give usual collocations of the lexical units. They give list of all the words that can be collocated with the head word. But such dictionaries are usually limited in their scope and present only words of a few grammatical categories viz. nouns, verbs and adjectives etc. They are useful for language teaching. e.g. Oxford Collocation Dictionary, by Macintosh C., Oxford University Press, 2009.

b) **Dictionaries of Usages:** these dictionaries generally aim at providing guidelines for the correct and standard use of words and are normative in character. e.g. Oxford A-Z of English Usage (Second Edition), Edited by Jeremy Butterfield, Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2013.

Dictionaries of special lexical units are generally grouped in the following:

a) Dictionaries of phrases or phraseological dictionaries

b) Dictionaries of proverbs and idioms

c) Dictionaries of neologism

d) Dictionaries of borrowed words

(a) **Dictionaries of phrases or phraseological dictionaries:** these dictionaries present the phraseological units of the language and are usually accompanied with illustrative examples. e.g. Longman Phrasal Verbs Dictionary, 2nd ed. Longman, 2000.

(b) **Dictionaries of proverbs and idioms:** they deal with proverbs and idioms of a language. e.g. Dictionary of Idioms, Proverbs, Word origins etc. by Faber, 2006.

(c) **Dictionaries of neologism:** such dictionaries present new words introduced in the language and the new meanings acquired by the existing words. They provide good material for the revision of the dictionaries. The addenda given in some dictionaries are
very much nearer to this type of dictionaries. e.g Neologism in Early Modern English (Paper, T K and Kupper, T. Grin Verlag 2013)

(d) **Dictionaries of borrowed words**: these dictionaries deal with words which are borrowed in the language from time to time. These dictionaries, in a limited sense, come under the class of etymological dictionaries. e.g. Dictionary of Borrowed words, A Wynwood Lexicon, Wynwood Press 1991.

Other dictionaries of this class are dictionaries of surname, toponyms (study of place names) e.g. Biblical toponyms in the United States, nicknames, dictionary of false friends, common vocabularies, etc.

**2.9 Other Types of Special Dictionaries**:

a) **Exegetic dictionaries**: These dictionaries deal with the text of some author or many authors and are prepared in different ways. A dictionary of this type may cover a particular work of an author e.g. Padmaavata Kosa, of Jayasi, Maanasakosa of Tulasi, Dictionary of the Autobiography of Gorky. Such dictionaries also cover all the works of a particular author. e.g. Dictionary of Shakespeare ( Oxford University Press 2005), Tulasikosa, The Dictionary of Pushkin's (Bristol Classical Press 2000) etc.

This dictionary contains all the words available in the text or texts. All the meanings of a lexical unit are given with illustrations and the actual places of their occurrence. Sometimes the total numbers of the occurrences of the lexical unit are also given to show the frequency of the lexical unit. In some dictionaries only the first and the last occurrences are noted. They not only give the lexicographic definitions but also encyclopaedic information and include proper names also. These dictionaries provide guidance for understanding the special usages of the lexical units by different authors. They also help in knowing the new words used by writers as also the new meanings attached to the present lexical units. They are useful in preparation of the historical dictionary of a language.
b) **Concordances:** Similar to exegetic dictionaries are what generally called are concordances’ wherein all the occurrences of a particular lexical unit are quoted systematically by giving the actual place of occurrence. e.g. Concordance to "The science of Mind" (Stewart, M A and Lowe, A. Science of Mind Communication 2007)

c) **Learner's Dictionaries:** This type of dictionary has been attracting the attention of the lexicographers all over the world. These dictionaries are designed to act as an aid for the learners of languages, both native and foreign, from various angles. e.g. Longman Handy Learners Dictionary of American English, Pearson Education ESL, 2000.

These dictionaries are broadly of two types:

1. Dictionaries meant for the foreign learners,
2. Dictionaries meant for native learners.

These dictionaries differ from general dictionaries and word books for the native speakers. The difference lies in the understanding of the problems and needs of the learners. An adult learner of a foreign language might find the use of many very common and simple words difficult. Many words for most commonly used things in daily life are not known to the foreign learners. The native speaker does not face this problem because although his word stock may be poor his language competence is quite sufficient.

The Compiler of learners' dictionary has the following two types of users:
1. The native speakers, who although having command of the language, need guidance about the correct usage of different words.
2. The speaker of the other language whose word-stock is limited and the language competence is very weak. In this case the interference of the native language is kept in mind while preparing the dictionaries.

The chief characteristic features of the dictionaries marking them different from other dictionaries are the following:
(1) The vocabulary is very limited. The selection of vocabulary items is very carefully done on different scientific principles.

(2) The emphasis is not on giving all the possible meanings of a lexical unit but its function and usage in the language.

These dictionaries may again be of different types depending upon the scope of the word lists contained in them and the nature of information with each lexical item. According to the scope of the word-list the dictionaries can be general and special. The general dictionary contains all the general words to be used by the learner of a language, e.g. Hornby's Advanced Learner's Dictionary.

To the second type belong the dictionaries of selected lexical items presenting a part of the total vocabulary, e.g. Dictionary of adjectives, verbs, nouns, etc. e.g. The Cassel's Dictionary of Appropriate Adjectives (Mikhail, E H Cassell 1994)

As for the nature of the information given in these dictionaries they may be of different types, e.g. presenting semantic or syntactic or grammatical information and emphasizing any of these aspects. Notable among them are the collocation dictionaries in different languages.

These dictionaries deal with the current and the common usage. Obsolete, archaic and dialectal words are not included in them. These dictionaries do not give certain derivatives which can be easily predictable. Variations in spelling and pronunciation are avoided as far as possible. The entries are selected on the principle of frequency. Usually more frequently used words are included in these dictionaries. The order of meanings in the learner's dictionary is empiric. The primary meaning is given first, the secondary meanings afterwards. The number of meanings is restricted to only very important ones. All possible meanings are not given. The emphasis is more on usage and collocations. The language of the definition is kept as simple as possible. For this common and more familiar words are used for defining the words. The learner's dictionaries give illustrative examples for all types of collocations. Illustrative pictures find greater place in the learner's dictionaries than general dictionaries.
Apart from the above following are few types of dictionaries also used most.

2.9.1 Encyclopedic and Linguistic Dictionaries:

An encyclopedic dictionary typically includes a large number of short listings, arranged alphabetically, and discussing a wide range of topics. Encyclopedic dictionaries can be general, containing articles on topics in many different fields; or they can specialize in a particular field, such as Art, Biography, Law, Medicine, or Philosophy. They may also be organized around a particular academic, cultural, ethnic, or national perspective. Compared to a dictionary, the encyclopedic dictionary offers a more complete description and a choice of entries selected to convey a range of knowledge. Compared to an encyclopedia, the encyclopedic dictionary offers ease of use, through summarized entries and in some cases more entries of separate terms; and often reduced size, and the reduced publishing and purchase cost that implies.

The lexical or linguistic information pertains to linguistic characteristics of the lexical unit viz., pronunciation, definition, etymology, grammatical category, etc. the encyclopedic information has the following features.

(a) The inclusion of names of persons, places, and literary works,

(b) Coverage of all branches of human knowledge,

(c) Extensive treatment of facts.

The dictionaries, giving information of the former type, are called linguistic or general dictionaries and those giving information of the later type, the encyclopedic dictionaries. But before these are described it would be useful to make a distinction between an encyclopedia and an encyclopedic dictionary. The encyclopedia is more concerned with the concepts and objects of extra linguistic world, that is the things and in a narrow sense they may be called 'things books'. Information presented in them is under few general topics. Their aim is to present information, as noted earlier, on all aspects of human knowledge. The items presented are more of denotational character including names of plants, animals, diseases. They also give historical events, geographical features,
biographical sketches of important personalities. Many items found in linguistic or general dictionaries do not find place in them. Such items are function words, verbal forms, and variety of other words. The information provided is more detailed and relates to the history and the description of the item.

The encyclopedic dictionary is a combination of an encyclopedia and a linguistic dictionary. It also includes items that are generally characteristic of an encyclopedia in addition to the items of a linguistic dictionary. In the amount of the information and the manner of its presentation, again, it combines the features of both. As a matter of fact, there can be no division like a linguistic dictionary and non-linguistic dictionary equating the latter with encyclopedic dictionary. As already stated any dictionary combines the features of both. The bigger dictionaries like The Century Dictionary, The Oxford English Dictionary, Malayalam Lexicon, Tamil Lexicon, Hindi Sabda Sagar etc., are encyclopedic but all of them are linguistic dictionaries.

Even the abridged and concise dictionaries present encyclopedic information in so far as they include proper names and explanation of culture items although it has been contended if proper names (realia) could be included in the purely linguistic dictionaries because it may make the dictionary encyclopedic. (Zgusta 1971, 245-246). So, many dictionaries give them not in the main body of the dictionary but in appendices. An ordinary dictionary includes them only when they attain the status of the common words.

The linguistic dictionary deals with only the lexical stock i.e. words as speech material and may be roughly called 'word book'. The linguistic dictionary usually attains the status of the encyclopedic dictionary in different ways, given below:-

(a) when a linguistic definition becomes inadequate to describe the lexical item, especially when it is a culture bound word, the lexicographer has to include encyclopedic information e.g. Malto kud ko:la-n. means 'an earthen pot in which the umbilical cord is preserved'.

(b) In the definition of certain words the encyclopedic definition determines the underlying concept: e.g. Coal (noun) - Hard opaque black or blackish mineral or vegetable matter found in seams or strata below earth's surface and used as fuel and in
manufacture of gas, tar etc., Coal (Noun adjective)- A black, hard substance that burns and gives off heat.

(c) When different meanings of a polysemous words given and mark them with labels, to give a hint that the meaning belongs to a particular branch of human knowledge like botany, astronomy, medicine etc, impliedly indicating the encyclopedic information there. The same thing happens to the quotations in illustrative examples with citations. Again, when refer to some work for further details about any type of cultural information, indirectly encyclopedic information is provided.

From the point of view of time the dictionaries can be either diachronic (dynamic) or synchronic (static), the former dealing with words across time and the latter at a particular point of time. As a matter of fact, it is very difficult to draw a line between diachronic and synchronic dictionaries. Bigger dictionaries of synchronic/descriptive character, for that matter even the smaller ones, have to include at least some amount of historical information. When a dictionary gives the derivative source of a word in form of the origin tag, usually appended to the head word in the lemma, there is an attempt to give, however superficial it may be, the etymology of the word and in this way the dictionary presents elements of diachronic nature.

2.9.2 Encyclopedic Dictionaries (Non-Lexical):

The encyclopedic information has the following features. (a) the inclusion of names of persons, laces, and literary works, (b) coverage of all branches of human knowledge, (c) extensive treatment of facts.

In the amount of the information and the manner of its presentation, again, it combines the features of both. As a matter of fact, there can be no division like a linguistic dictionary and non-linguistic dictionary equating the latter with encyclopedic dictionary. As already stated any dictionary combines the features of both.

Larger dictionaries of many Indian languages, meant for the understanding of the literature of the language, include some words from texts of the earlier period. In these
cases the lexicographer has to arrange the different usages of the different senses of a lexical unit in some chronological order and thus the descriptive dictionary attains a historical color. Again, when describing the lexical units of the language, the lexicographer finds some words of rare use or gradually going out of use he makes use of some labels, e.g. archaic, obsolete, obsolescent etc., to describe these words. In doing so he takes his dictionary to the domain of the diachronic one.

Formats of Dictionaries:

Generally dictionaries are available in a number of formats for easy applications, and often include grammar, references to the words, context of usage and usage examples etc.

- **Printed dictionaries** – Printed dictionaries range from small pocket-sized editions to large, comprehensive multi-volume works.

- **Handheld electronic dictionaries** (Pocket electronic dictionaries or PEDs)
  Electronic dictionaries are small devices that receive input via a miniature keyboard, speech recognition or a scanning device that reads printed text, and outputs the translation on a small LCD screen or speaks the translation audibly.

- **Dictionary programs** – It is a software that allows words or phrases to be input and translated on computers and smart phones.

- **Online dictionaries** – Online dictionaries similar to dictionary programs, these are often easy to search, but not always free to use, and in some cases lack the accuracy (particularly in open collaborative dictionaries), or scope of printed and electronic dictionaries.

- **Visual dictionaries** – A visual dictionary is a printed dictionary that relies primarily on illustrations to provide the user with a reliable way of identifying the correct translation. Visual dictionaries are often multi-lingual rather than bilingual—instead of containing translations between two languages they often cover four or more languages.
2.10 History and Development of Dictionaries:

2.10.1 International Perspective:

Aristophanes of Byzantium (c.257-180BC), librarian of Alexandrian Library, is known to have compiled a dictionary of Greek words and his successor Aristarchus of Samothrace (fl.153 BC) also did pioneer work in the area of Homeric Language and reported that the first ever known dictionary is “Homeric Glossary” compiled by Appolonius-The sophist. The ancient Chinese were pioneers and compiled first dictionary of 40,000 hieroglyphical characters dates back to 1100BC. In the first century AD the tutor of the grandson of Augustus, named Maria Verrius Flaccus (fl.20BC), a grammarian had compiled a Latin dictionary which did not survive.

The compilations of dictionaries in English language initiated from 15th century but initiatives towards developing started from Anglo-Saxon times and covered difficult Latin works. Whittaker (1966) in his book “Dictionaries” narrated the evolution of English dictionaries briefly and recorded that the first step towards English language dictionaries were taken in Anglo-Saxon times by listing Latin words. Later when the English language was replacing Anglo-Saxon, it became common for monastic scribes to extract all the glosses from a manuscript and make a list of them, and sometimes they extended their lists over several manuscripts. The lists were called ‘glossaries’. It was found that to trace any one word in a fairly long glossary was a laborious process, and so rudimentary alphabetizing came in practice since 14th century the words within each letter were themselves alphabetized, and true alphabetical order became the rule.

During the period 1440 to 1570 more efforts were taken in developing dictionaries especially in 1440 A.D. Geoffrey the grammarian, compiled ‘Promptorium Parvulorum’ (or store house for the little ones) useful for school children. Sir Thomas Elyet published his Latin English dictionary in 1538 A.D. Nearly 100 years after Geoffrey’s dictionary Richard Hulcet brought out his ‘Abcedarium Anglico-Latinum pro typiculis’ in 1552 A.D. This was a popular work useful for school children. In 1570 A.D. Peter Levins published ‘Manipulus Vocabulary’ (handful of words) shorter version based on Richard Huloet’s work.
Robart Cwadrey’s ‘A table alphabetical’ is supposed to be the first English dictionary published in 1604 A.D. This was an interlinear glossary to Latin and French texts. It was only in the 18th century that dictionaries started including words of common use. This trend was set by Nathaniel Bailey who gave preference to commonly used words in his ‘Universal etymological dictionary’ published in 1721. In the year 1618 appeared Sanskrit dictionary "Kosakalpataru" of Vishwanath (fl. 1608-1649). Sahaja, King of Tanjoure (1684-1712) compiled "Sbadarth Samanvaya Kosha" which is the valuable contribution to the development of Sanskrit dictionary making in south India.

Since the 16th Century, there had been calls for the regulation and reform of what was increasingly seen as an unwieldy English language, including John Cheke's 1569 proposal for the removal of all silent letters, and William Bullokar’s 1580 recommendation of a new 37-letter alphabet (including 8 vowels, 4 "half-vowels" and 25 consonants) in order to aid and simplify spelling. There were even attempts (similarly unsuccessful) to ban certain words or phrases that were considered in some way undesirable, words such as fib, banter, bigot, fop, flippant, flimsy, workmanship, selfsame, despoil, nowadays, furthermore and wherewithal, and phrases such as subject matter, drive a bargain, handle a subject and bolster an argument.

But, by the early 18th Century, many more scholars had come to believe that the English language was chaotic and in desperate need of some firm rules. Jonathan Swift, (1969) in his “Proposal for Correcting, Improving and Ascertaining the English Tongue” of 1712, decried the “degeneration” of English and sought to “purify” it and fix it forever in unchanging form, calling for the establishment of an Academy of the English Language similar to the Académie Française. He was supported in this by other important writers like John Dryden and Daniel Defoe, but such an institution was never actually realized. (Interestingly, the only country ever to set up an Academy for the English language was South Africa, in 1961).

In the meantime France, Italy, Spain, Germany and other national academics had undertaken the work of codifying their language in their scholarly dictionaries. A number of dictionaries in English language were published in the latter half of 18th century, of
which mention may be made of John Wesley's "The complete English Dictionary" in 1753. Dr. Johnson has developed a new trial in the development of English dictionary. His monumental work ‘Dictionary of the English language’ published in 1755 A.D. contains 58000 words, opened a new era in the history of lexicography. The notable feature in his dictionary is the introduction of well known quotations from the authority to illustrate clearly the meaning of words. Bailay’s dictionary is no where in comparison to this dictionary. In the 19th century Noah Webster gave another equally outstanding dictionary called “An American dictionary of English Language” published in 1828 with 70000 entries. This dictionary was not only of a high standard but included many words not found in previous dictionaries especially technical terms. The work included some material of non dictionary nature such as tables of weights and measures and a list of post offices etc.

In 1851, "Imperical Dictionary" published by John Oligavie. In 1860 A.D. there appeared another dictionary of similar type “A Dictionary of English Language” by Joseph Worcester. This indeed is the first dictionary to contain illustrations. A big change come to English lexicography in 1857 when Dean Trench read before the London Philological Society his protest paper, “some deficiencies in existing English dictionaries”. A dictionary, declared Dean Trench is an inventory of the language. (Shores 1954).

The enlightened dean Treanch’s paper paved the way for the compilation of the great ‘Oxford English dictionary on Historical principles’. This dictionary aimed to trace history, definition, meaning of all words known to have been in use since 1100 A.D. including all common words of speech and literature, scientific and technical terminology, dialectal words that were in vague before 1500 A.D. Acclaimed as ‘the Emperor of dictionaries’ the new Oxford English dictionary contains 414825 entries supported by 200000 quotations. This grand scale project was started in 1888 and ended in 1933 and brought out in 12 volumes and supplement. Whittaker (1966) opines “It is a pure dictionary not an encyclopedia one but the wealth of information given about each word makes its entries as long as many of the articles found in encyclopedia.

In the wake of Johnson’s “Dictionary”, a plethora (one could even say a surfeit) of other dictionaries appeared, peaking in the period between 1840 and 1860, as well as many specialized dictionaries and glossaries. Thomas Sheridan attempted to tap into the zeitgeist, and looked to regulate English pronunciation as well as its vocabulary and spelling. His book “British Education”, published in 1756, and unashamedly aimed at cultured British society, particularly cultured Scottish society, purported to set the correct pronunciation of the English language, and it was both influential and popular. His son, Richard Brinsley Sheridan, later gave us the unforgettable language excesses of Mrs. Malaprop.

In addition to dictionaries, many English grammars started to appear in the 18th Century, the best-known and most influential of which were Robert Lowth's “A Short Introduction to English Grammar” (1762) and Lindley Murray's “English Grammar” (1794). In fact, some 200 works on grammar and rhetoric were published between 1750 and 1800, and no less than 800 during the 19th Century. Most of these works, Lowth’s in particular, were extremely prescriptive, stating in no uncertain terms the “correct” way of using English. Lowth was the main source of such "correct" grammar rules as a double negative always yields a positive, never end a sentence with a preposition and never split an infinitive. A refreshing exception to such prescriptivism was the “Rudiments of English Grammar” by the scientist and polymath Joseph Priestley, which was unusual in
expressing the view that grammar is defined by common usage and not prescribed by self-styled grammarians.

The first English newspaper was the “Courante” or “Weekly News” (actually published in Amsterdam, due to the strict printing controls in force in England at that time) arrived in 1622, and the first professional newspaper of public record was the “London Gazette”, which began publishing in 1665. The first daily, “The Daily Courant”, followed in 1702, and “The Times” of London published its first edition in 1790, around the same time as the influential periodicals “The Tatler” and “The Spectator”, which between them did much to establish the style of English in this period. (The History of English

In 1806 Webster published “A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language” the first truly American dictionary. Followed by “An American Dictionary of the English Language”, for which Webster learned 26 languages, including Anglo-Saxon and Sanskrit, in order to research the origins of his own country's tongue. This book, published in 1828, embodied a new standard of lexicography; it was a dictionary with 70,000 entries that was felt by many to have surpassed Samuel Johnson's 1755 British masterpiece not only in scope but in authority as well. While Webster was promoting his dictionary, George and Charles Merriam opened a printing and bookselling operation in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1831. G. & C. Merriam Co. (renamed Merriam-Webster Inc. in 1982) inherited the Webster legacy when the Merriam brothers bought the unsold copies of the 1841 edition of “An American Dictionary of the English Language, Corrected and Enlarged” from Webster's heirs after the great man's death in 1843. At the same time they secured the rights to create revised editions of that work. It was the beginning of a publishing tradition that has continued uninterrupted to this day at Merriam-Webster. (http://www.merriam-webster.com/info/noah.htm)

2.10.2 Indian Perspective:

In India the compilation of dictionaries has an early sign and knows the use and importance of dictionaries. Amar Simha compiled a lexicon “Amarkosha” also called “Namalinganushasana” and covered retrospective terminologies back to 400AD. In
Europe, origin of dictionary tracked back to 1225 AD when Johnes De Garlandia used this word for his collection of Latin Vocables arranged according to subject. Peter Berohorin’s work “dictionarium morale ultrinsque Teetamenti” made its appearance in 1362AD.

In India the development of publishing dictionaries in different Indian languages was initiated and especially in Sanskrit, the authoritative dictionary is "Sanskrit Worterbuch (Word Book)" 1855-75 in 7 Vols by Otto von Bohtilingk" also known as St. Petersburg Dictionary. Similarly in Pali "A Critical Pali Dictionary by Vilhellm Trenckner published in 1924,

In Hindi, Varnaratnakar by Jyotirisvar, is an oldest Hindi dictionary of Hindi words, issued around 1320 AD. Thesaurus type of dictionaries had also developed and the oldest dictionary of synonyms in Hindi was compiled in 1561, named as Dingal Namamala by Hariraj or Harraj (Vyas 1999). Later followed by Anekarth Namamala by Nand Das (1533-1583) in 1568. To record the development of some prominent dictionaries in Hindi language were, Bharati Namamala (1628) by Kave Bhikajan. Prakash Namamala (1697) by Miya Noor, Nam Prakash (1736) by Bhikhari Das, Vishva Namamala (1780) by Balak Ram, Hindustani-Angreji (1773) by J. Ferguson and Angreji-Hindustani (1773) by J. Ferguson, both the dictionaries are published in London. Hindustani kosh (1790) by Henery Harris, Parsi Parsat Namamala (1800) by Kunvar Kushal Suri (Vyas 1999).

Apart from these dictionaries there were two dictionaries to be recorded in the development of dictionaries in different languages were, published and printed in India are, Hindi Kosh compiled by Reverend Mathew Thomson Adam (published by School Book Society, Calcutta), in 1829, the first edition and second edition was published in 1839 as “A Dictionary of Hindi Language” issued in 1839. But the credit goes to Radha Lal, first Indian to publish Hindi dictionary, Shabdakosh published by Light Press, Banaras in 1873. In Bengali, the first systematic attempt made was creation of Shabdasindhu and also a Bengali rendering of Amarkosh in early 19th century. Other well known and recognized attempt is the Foster’s Dictionary (1799-1802), in two volumes and Carey’s Dictionary also in two volumes (1815-1825). In 20th century the publications of dictionaries in Indian languages have been grown up tremendously in thousands.
Christian missionaries had taken tremendous interest in developing and publishing dictionaries in Indian languages, particularly in south Indian languages. But in the case of Gujarati not a single dictionary has been prepared and published by Christian missionaries. But unique example is that the first dictionary was published in Gujarati by English scholar Drummon’s Glossary in 1808. There are thousands of dictionaries published in many languages and dialects of the world. Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science rightly indicates that, Zaunmuller’s bibliography published in 1958 consist of or a compilation of about 5600 dictionaries published in different language covering more than 500 languages and dialects. (Kent, 1972, p.204).

The brief development is reviewed and presented in tabular form as indicated in Table 1 below.

Table 2.1: Compilation of language dictionaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Compiler</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1(^{st}) C. AD</td>
<td>Appolonious</td>
<td>40,000 hieroglyphical characters in Ancient China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1100 BC</td>
<td>Amar Simha</td>
<td>Amarkosha or Namalinganushasana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>400 AD</td>
<td>Joannes de Garlandia</td>
<td>Latin vocable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1225 AD</td>
<td>Pierre Bercheure</td>
<td>Dictionarium Marle Ultrimenti Testimenti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1362 AD</td>
<td>Geoffreay</td>
<td>Evolution of English Dictionary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>1440 AD</td>
<td>Sir Thomas Elyot</td>
<td>Promptorium Parvulorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1538 AD</td>
<td>Richard Huloet</td>
<td>Latin English Dictionary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1552 AD</td>
<td>Peter Levins</td>
<td>Abecedarium Anglico-Latinum pro typiculis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>1570 AD</td>
<td>Robert Cowdrey</td>
<td>Manipulus Vocabulary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1604 AD</td>
<td>Table Alphabetical of Hard Words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Dictionary Title</td>
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<td>------</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1618</td>
<td>Vishvanath</td>
<td>Koshakalpataru</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1684-1712</td>
<td>Sahaja King of Tanjore</td>
<td>Shabdarth Samanvaya Kosha</td>
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<tr>
<td>1721</td>
<td>Nathaniel Bailey</td>
<td>Universal Etymological English Dictionary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1753</td>
<td>John Wesley</td>
<td>The Complete English Dictionary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1755</td>
<td>Samuel Johnson</td>
<td>Dictionary of the English Language</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1828</td>
<td>Noah Webster</td>
<td>An American Dictionary of English language.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>John Oligavie</td>
<td>Imperical Dictionary</td>
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<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Joseph Worcester</td>
<td>A Dictionary of English Language</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>James Stormonth</td>
<td>The Etymological and Pronouncing Dictionary</td>
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</table>

(Source: Vyas, K M 1999)

**Conclusion:**

In this chapter, a modest attempt is made to provide a historical perspective of the dictionaries in general. Attention is also paid to discuss about the varieties of dictionaries and their significance in the different context. Dictionaries as a valuable reference tools, specially serving the cause of short range reference service has gone a long way in developing the language and literature. As there are several varieties of dictionaries published in the English language, it is very difficult to sum up them in a small chapter. However, very selective dictionaries are considered for the purpose of discussion. Efforts made in Presenting the brief perspective of dictionaries from the international and Indian perspective in this chapter, the next chapter is an attempt made to present the salient features of growth and development of Sanskrit Dictionaries. This chapter thus fulfils the objective listed at three.
References:

• Whittaker, Kenneth (1966), Dictionaries, Bombay, Asia Publishing