Chapter IV

STYLE AND FUNCTIONS
OF
PERSIAN DICTIONARIES
4. STYLE AND FUNCTIONS OF PERSIAN DICTIONARIES

4.1 Introduction

The time which we live in is the age of tremendous changes and serious confrontations of cultures. In both the influence of change and turmoil of the confrontation, a country can remain strong and stable that has a deep rooted culture and stable language in addition to its economical power. Among the many scientific and literary glories peculiar to Iranians, lexicography is also one of the glories of Iran.

Lexicography relatively has a long history as far as it is said that Iranians are the first nation to write dictionaries in the world (Nafisi, 1983). Iran is located in a place in which dominant and different world cultures have encountered this country. Buddhists who traveled through the Silk Road and migrated from India to China passed through Iran that was their passing path. The Great Alexander, who intended to attack India, first passed through the country. Hence every nation that passed through the country has borne traces of their culture and language in that place.

One of the features of Persian language is that it has assimilated foreign words in itself well, as it has adapted many word, for example: “kaghaz” (paper) from Chinese, “daftar” (book) from Greek and “bot” (idol) from Hindi and also thousands of words from Arabic and Turkish. The Persian put them in Farsi mould in such a manner that nobody now can believe that the words in Persian are borrowed from other languages. On the other hand, Iran is a multi-lingual country where different ethnic groups speak different languages. Many of the people are not familiar with Persian and the true meaning of the words and terms until school age. Moreover many non-Iranians are also interested in learning the Persian language. Obviously, compilation of a qualified dictionary and in accordance with the most modern lexicography and linguistic achievements can meet a huge part of the linguistic and educational of the
wide class of users’ needs. Research and valuable works that has been done in this area are of the outcome of tremendous efforts made by the specialists of Persian Language and Literature. However Jafari 2007 mentioned that the available dictionaries are not enough to meet language users’ needs. In fact, most of the available Persian dictionaries are valuable treasure of information but lack method and system. In this chapter, we take an overview of other parts of the structure and styles of Persian dictionaries and briefly explore the functions of Persian dictionaries.

4.2 Definition

Definition is one of the most important components of the entry, through which the meaning of the vocabulary unit is determined. According to the dictionary type, this addresses the way of semantic information. The definition has different types. In given definition, writing of linguistic units, syntax and semantics fields can be benefited. For example, some units can be defined by their syntactic structure: for example:

“roman nevis” (novelist) someone whose job is to write novel.

- “violon navaz” (violinist) someone whose job is to play the violin.

Sometimes, instead of defining a unit, only its grammatical structure can be pointed out:

- “baghat” (gardens) = the plural form of garden
- “parid” (jumped) = the past form of jump

Here, the original meaning of the word is referred to its base or linking forms.
4.2.1 Types of Definition

Definition is of different types and lexicographers use it according to the dictionary type and its users. The most important of them are analytical or logical definition, combinational definition, synonymic definition, applied definition and functional definition (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

1. Analytical definition: This type of definition is the main method of definition that is found in all dictionaries. In this method, the descriptive word is defined by its gender, and distinctive mood of that unit among other parts. This is called separation. For example: Madiyan (mare) = horse (quality) and female (separation)

Ash (aash) = a watery food (quality) composed of cereals or grains and oil with different kinds of seasoning and liquids or other watery and thick foods such as doogh, yogurt and verjuice.

The basis of this definition is quality and separation, but it is wrong to suppose that quality and separation are enough for a definition. The matters that should be expressed in a definition are different according to the purpose of the definition. The main advantage of this definition is that often the obtained definition using this method can be understood as the substitution of the word. One of the main disadvantages of this method is that it cannot be used for the abstract concepts for example such as truth and love.

2. Combinational definition: in this definition, the relationship of a word is determined by other words in order to obtain an assumption of the introducer (what is to be defined). This kind of definition shows the introducer as a whole of a part, while combined definition defines the introducer by showing a part of the whole.
For example Sabz (green) 1. Whatever which have green color 2. A color is between blue and yellow, the color of grass or a fresh leaf.

3. Applied definition: in this definition, a lexicographer should refer to situation and context in which the lexical unit is used. Applied definition shows contextual, grammatical, semantic and functional information and how to use words in practice. Therefore, definition should be in a way that implies such information in addition to the meaning of the word. It is because that word is defined in its context, with sentences and combinations that show its usage and verbal evidence. There are some examples showing contextual definition (applied) for elementary-school dictionaries:

- Akhiran (recently): something that has been formed and occurred lately.
- Ekhlal (sabotage): when someone damages or spoils something.

4. Synonymic definition: it is one of the traditional definitions which is the basis of most Persian dictionaries. In this definition, lexicographer informs the user that the entry means word or words that he/she is familiar with. Synonyms are used here in order to define the word.

For example:

Chame (ballad): poem, ghazal, anthem
Por (full): overfilled, filled, brimful, replete, anti-empty

5. Functional definition: some words and grammatical categories cannot be defined through combinational, analytical and in some cases with synonymic methods. Definition of prepositions, conjunctions and sounds cannot be embedded in any of the above-mentioned methods. These categories are called grammatical morphemes that have no specific meaning, but show roles and relationships of other words. On the contrary, they are lexical meaningful morphemes, but some of the lexical elements
especially idioms, proverbs and stereotypical combinations such as compliments, catch phrases, expletives and the like cannot be described with ordinary methods. In such cases, they explain the role and function of grammatical morphemes, phrases, proverbs and their usage and thus describe their meaning. These definitions can be substituted with their introducers in the context or in other words, they have not substitutive capacity.

For example:

Ashsh, choshsh and hoshsh (whoa), these are used to tell quadrupeds especially donkey to stop.

Afiyat (God bless you!), it is a praying phrase which is addressed to someone else who sneezes.

Some believe that grammatical morphemes are not meaningful, but are merely function-face. Sydney Lando (1989) said that “it is wrong to say that grammatical morphemes are not meaningful, but it is the problem that their lexical meaning cannot be defined by traditional common methods. Lexicographers are forced to take stratagems to confront the problem.”

Generally, information regarding the grammatical role of words, the context in which they are used, and the impact that this usage transfers, are provided in functional definition.

4.2.2 The Principles and Features of Definition

Some of the principles of definition that should be taken into account are as follows:
1. All used words in definition should be defined in their alphabetical order. Exceptions are: Scientific nouns of plants and animals and combinational scientific and technical terms that their meaning is distinguished by its one by one element.

2. Definition should not include words that would be more difficult than the introducer itself. For example:

*Az gerde rah nareside (just has come) ledy al-vrood (Shamloo, 1978).*

*Ajorpazi (brick firing) (Dehkhoda, 1958).*

This problem in traditional logic is broached in a way that the introduced should be more explicit than introducer and covered definition is not permitted, but this matter is not always possible. There is no simple way to describe exactly complicated things and phenomena. Traditional Iranian lexicographers free themselves through bringing “famed’’ or “palpable’’ in such cases. For example the definition of “feather” has been written in Emrooz Persian dictionary as “Par” (feather): an epidermal process in birds that usually has a horny stalk or shaft and an empty part that its two sides are covered with delicate and narrow sheets and from them fur are brought out (Sadri Afshar, 1991).

3. Definition should be in accordance with grammatical category of introducer. If it is not possible, definition should show grammatical category of introducer (vowel point R) in a way. For example the substitution of noun should be another noun or noun group or noun clause. Definition of grammatical morphemes, proverbs, idioms and the like are excluded from this principle. Definition of singular noun should be singular and of plural noun should be also plural.

4. Definition should not entail rotation. Rotation in definition not only causes difficulty in understanding, but also makes understanding of definition impossible sometimes.
and users cannot understand the meaning easily. The general principle of rotation is that no word should be defined by itself and its synonym.

5. In definition, metaphorical language and expressions should be avoided. Figurative definition concerning scientific and technical term should not be used. An example from Kooche book (alley), sare kesi be akhor bodan (to be engrossed in something): being unaware of surroundings because of involving in illicit income (Shamloo, 1978).

6. Antonyms or idioms related to introducer should not be used in definition. Perhaps its main reason is that a user who have no exact information about meaning and usage of introducer will be confused by seeing the antonymous meaning or related words (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

From another perspective, an optimum definition has features and some rules which should be taken into consideration in order to obtain an optimum definition and some of them are as follows:

1. Colloquial words should not be used in definition.

2. Case definition should be avoided. Case definition is a definition that only provides one or several items among all the items of the introducer.

For example in Emrooz Persian dictionary Dalbor (festoon): 1- a curved shape 2. cutting cloth based on that shape.

The second concept of dalbor is not only used for cutting cloth (Sadri Afshar, 1991).

Another example from kooche book; Az chashm ya sare gardan eltezam dadn (pledging to cut one’s eyes or head): collateralizing one’s eyes and head for doing something right
in a sense that if it come out wrong, the liable one’s eyes or head will be cut. The expression of “dar nahayte amr” signifies one’s perfect faith in his/her statements (Shamloo, 1978).

3. Definition should not be ambiguous. The individual words and combinations which are used in definition should not be ambiguous. If the used word in definition has several meanings, it should be clarified by another phrase.

4. General and specified definition is not permitted. In other words, definition should include introducers and exclude non-introducers. The example is shown below from Emrooz Persian dictionary:

Mesghal (unit of weight equal to about five grams): the traditional weight unit (Sadri Afshar, 1991).

Whereas the alphabetical-analogical Persian dictionary provides more comprehensive and restrictive definition than the previous dictionary:

Mesghal: unit of weight equal to about 24 nokhods and 16.1 seers (Moshiri, 1991).

5. In definition, the general should be mentioned before the specific, in other words, first the most important elements and then the sub-elements should be mentioned. May be in some cases, verbal structure of definition will be in a way that lexicographer is forced to create disorder.

6. No words should be defined with a word or words that their definitions are related to the introducer.

7. Personal and political beliefs should not be included in definitions. See the definition of zendan (prison):
Prison: a building in which criminals are kept to be punished or other people to be safe from their threats (Sinclair, 1987).

Zendan (prison): a place in which the sentenced and criminals are kept (Amid, 1978).

8. The language of definition should be simple, all-understanding, up-to-date, non-mimic and uncomplicated. Of course, simple definitions are not necessarily good definitions. It is possible that many of delicacies and generally exactness and explicitness will be scarified for simplicity.

9. Logical method should be used in definition in other words, the word should be defined based on the gender, it means that it should be based on the class and separation and definite characteristics. For example oghab (eagle) is a member of birds that is separated by its eagle characteristics from that class.

10. In rare words or Arabic words that their Persian is common, we do not need definition. For example in Persian, koodak (infant) is more common than tefl (child), thus when we encounter tefl, we use koodak as its synonym to define it.

11. Synonyms should be used regarding foreign or old-fashioned terms. For example, we should write zistshenasi (biology) for biolozhi, bargh (electricity) for elictricite and noor afkan (projector) for prozhector (Hashmi Minabad, 2007).

12. We should observe encyclopedical and word limit. For example in definition of water we can write it in a page for it. Some dictionaries did not observe this rule, for example in Persian dictionary of Moein, following plants, encyclopedical definitions are written, not word definition. For example ten lines are written for daffodil while it could be defined in three lines. (Anvari, 2009).
4.2.3 Definition Rules in Great Dictionary of Sokhan

Some of the definition rules which are taken into account in this dictionary are as follows:

1. In some grammatical categories, that definition is not very explicit and useful, their usage are referred. For example:

   Ahan (yeah or yes): it is used in confirmation, objection, happiness, remembering something and the like.

   Be (to): it is used for attaching.

2. In definition, the main attempt was that definition can be exactly the substitution of the example, but from the authors’ viewpoint this strategy does not always convey meaning to the reader, other methods have been used. For example, different patterns are used for defining adjectives. They are begun with adjectives. For example Arjomand (lofty): of a noble position or definitions are begun with An ke (the one who) or Anche (what). For example bimar (patient) the one who suffers from impairment injury or physical or psychological disorders, mariz (ill). In some cases, definitions are begun with features, for example sarbetoo (downcast): it is the characteristic of someone who tell not his/her secret to anyone. In other cases, words are defined with descriptive synonyms for example bahrekesh (exploiter): exploiter

3. In definition everywhere that was useful and possible antonym is mentioned and it is distinguished by mogh, moghabel (antonym=ant)

4. In cases that a word or combination has more than one meaning, their meanings are numbered.
5. Semantic priority and non-priority at first level are based on contemporariness or oldness of the word and then they are based on the frequency. More frequent meanings are mentioned first and less frequent ones are mentioned later.

6. Preferences in definitions: in this case according to the authors’ statements, some words have exact active equivalents. In such cases, less frequent words are not defined, but are referred to high frequent words. Reference method is determined by → sign:

Anatomi (Anatomy) kalbod shenasi (anatomy) (medical) →

Achar faranse (wrench) (technical) → when word is referred to two synonyms, → sign is come between the words, that is see the two words:

Azt (Azote) (chemical) nitrogen (Anvari, 2003).

4.3 Semantic Information

One of the most important information in a dictionary is the semantic information of lexical units. A lexicographer is obliged to do two important things viz, semantic separation and definition-writing.

The most important and pivotal task of a lexicographer is semantic separation of a word or phrase before the definition according to its position in collocation axis and its relationship with other lexical units that are used in a unified context. To achieve this purpose, available examples and sentences in linguistic corpus should be examined exactly to extract different meanings of lexical unit (Ghatreh, 2007).

A lexicographer should use some patterns and criteria to specify different meanings and concepts separation and to organize them in particular semantic areas. Some dictionaries mention meanings according to their order and historical sequence from the earliest meanings to the recent ones. Different meanings are organized
according to their order, origin, development and durability over times often accompanied by examples.

Some dictionaries, first mention the most common and the highest frequent meanings and concepts and then figurative ones and finally rare and old-fashioned ones (Hashmi Minabad, 2007). The order of different meanings of lexical units is determined by dictionary type. If the dictionary is historical, usually semantic order is begun from the oldest entry meaning and is ended at the most recent meaning. The determining factor is usually the frequency of different meanings occurrence, which is determined by reference to the linguistic corpus and dialect speakers’ linguistic instinct (Ghatreh, 2007).

There are different orders for semantic organizing that lexicographers depending on the dictionary type and its users or merely by their preferences choose them and organize meanings based on them. There is no united system that will be so detailed and desirable which in all cases prevents us from personal judgment in the process (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

When we do semantic separation of lexical units, we should consider that common semantic units should be put in one class together. For the same token, for example words daste (handle), dar (door), kif (bag), ghablame (tiffin), livan (glass) and the like convey a common concept. On the other hand, some semantic differences result from phonological and phonemic of linguistic elements such as stress and emphasis, for example semantic difference of words such as vali (parent) and vali (but) is in their stress position that in the first word it is on the second syllable and in the second word it is on the first syllable (Ghatreh, 2007).
Semantic change: one of the problems that we encounter in writing dictionaries is semantic change. That is, a word had a meaning in the past and now it has another one and these kinds of words are common in Persian. What can be done now? For example shabestan (bedchamber) was meant haramsara (harem) in the past, but today it means the covered part of a mosque. Negaran (here means watcher) was said in ey kabotar negaran bash ke shahin amd (Oh pigeon watch that hawk came) it means that “watch” but today it means “worried” in sentence negaranm dir kardeam (I’m worried, I’m late).

On the other hand, in Afghanistan, “Adame nazer” (supervisor) is called “negaran” for example someone who check tickets in the train is called “aghay negaran” (Mr. supervisor). What can lexicographers do regarding this group of words? Should they mention all the meanings? Or they should mention the contemporaries? This issue is dependent on what dictionary we are writing. If we are writing a dictionary for contemporary usage, we write contemporary meaning and if it is the case of historical one, we should write all the meanings, but if we mention which one is older or more recent, great confusion will appear for example the meaning of tavile (stable) is mentioned in Moein dictionary as follows:

Tavile: 1. Long female, 2. Thread, 3. Necklace (like pearl necklace), 4. a rope that quadrupeds are tied to it (none of them are used today), 5. Stall, 6. Train.

Except the first meaning which is not clear that is used in Arabic or not, all their meanings are used in Persian, but each one was used in a particular period of time. The fifth meaning is also faulty, because establ (stall) is equivalent with horse stall and tavile in the meaning of establ has a general and particular relationship, that is, tavile is a more common word than establ. Therefore, establ does not exactly mean tavile. Akhor (manger) is a part of tavile. It is interesting that among all the meanings, the fifth is closed to tavile and that is also wrong. Thus, when we look at meaning of tavile
meanings we understand nothing that what tavile means in contemporary Persian, but it is defined in today’s Persian dictionary as: tavile is a place that farm animals are kept there (Sadri Afshar, 1991). Then gives examples viz: (monkey, horse and cow) this means today is stable. Sokan dictionary which does not claim to be a contemporary dictionary has a good method as it has mentioned Moein dictionary meaning as: 1. a place for keeping farm animals the contemporary meaning is this) 2. Necklace (but below it is written old-fashioned) 3. A rope that quadrupeds’ legs are tied to it (below it is written old-fashioned) it means that its first meaning which is non-sign and in its contemporary meaning and those which has sign are old-fashioned and are not used today. This is the best method for a historical dictionary, thus words’ meanings are changed over times and it is unavoidable (Bateni, 2009).

4.3.1 Semantic Order and Organization

Semantic order and organization in entries are one of the most important tasks of lexicographer that is done based on fulfilling needs and addressees’ capacities as well as dictionary type. Language and external world’s realities and lexicographers’ world view are effective in semantic order. Meanings and concepts in entries are organized in a particular order in order to determine an appropriate image from the meaning of the entry and finding and searching particular meanings and concepts will be easier and faster. (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

There are different orders for semantic organization that lexicographers choose them depending on the dictionary type and its addressees or merely from their preference and provide meanings based on them. There is no unified, desirable and detailed system that can be used in all cases faultlessly and offered:
1. The main and subordinate order

In most cases, when lexicographers follow a semantic order, it is necessary that choose another order regarding organization of the main parts. The subordinate order specifies the organization of smaller parts.

2. Grammatical order

The first criterion of semantic order is organization based on the grammatical function. All the meanings of a grammatical category are collected in a unified unit. Some words have several grammatical functions like khoob (good) which is an adjective, adverb and noun. Lexicographers separate these categories from each other and provide them in different entries.

3. Frequency order

This order is taken based on the usage and real frequency rate in language mainly due to its practical usefulness for most users. Most of the general dictionaries, first mention the most frequent and common meanings and concepts and then the other meanings are organized. There is no frequency dictionary in Persian that lexicographers record the most frequent and common meanings based on it. Compiling such dictionary can be helpful for lexicographers in semantic organization.

4. Historical order

Meanings are organized based on their origins, changes over times, death or durability. Mere historical order has an explicit and unambiguous nature. At first, a concept that has been made earlier than other concepts based on the evidence is recorded and other concepts are organized according to their origin date. Historical order needs another order in internal organization. Main semantic distributions are done based on the historical order, but concept that are in close relationship with each other, are collected logically or based on the core meaning.
5. Logical or core order

In this method, meanings are organized based on the lexicographers’ logical order. Apparently, their basis is historical changes of words, of course, without profound study or research. Their image of logical order and its usage are extremely different in practice. Users should have information as much as lexicographers’ and their world view and attitude towards language should be the same with lexicographers’ in order to understand this order.

Often, words, not always, have core or central meanings that other meanings are derived from them. These meanings have clusters consisting of connected concepts and have separate concepts that are derived from them. Lexicographers first mention core meaning and then figurative or narrated, specialized and general, archaic, old-fashioned, rare and the like meanings or concepts.

Apparently, the method of Dr. Moein in his dictionary was based on the logical order, because priority or non-priority of different meanings of a word has been done based on their importance and real and figurative meanings are done with consideration of their grammatical identity.

6. Usage Order

Words have many usages in language, including their general and specialized usage. Therefore, order should be decided depending upon the users i.e., general usage of a word in a dictionary or specialized, old-fashioned and figurative usage. The order of usage in this method is general, specialized, scientific and professional, figurative, old-fashioned, rare and archaic. Usage order makes finding meanings easy in dictionaries and avoids wasting time in finding needed usage. (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).
4.3.2 Semantic Order and Organization in Moein Dictionary

In Moein dictionary about the style of mentioning meanings and concepts can be written as follows:

1. Different meanings of a word are determined by scores.

2. The priority and non-priority of different meanings of a word are specified according to their importance, real and figurative meanings and grammatical identity.

3. In definitions, scientific aspect of definitions is taken into account and in addition to Persian dictionaries, European dictionaries are also used.

4. Combinations related to each of the meanings are mentioned below those meanings. In the case of combinations which are compatible with different meanings, they are written below the last related meaning.

5. References are excluded in definitions except in necessary cases.

6. Special abbreviations are written in parentheses before definitions showing special contexts for example pz (pezeshki, Medical), jan (janavarshenasi=zoology), gia (giahshenasi=botany) and nj (njoom=astrology).

7. Family, group and class of plants, animals and stones are determined from natural sciences perspective, and their Latin, French English or German names are mentioned at the bottom of pages and also different types of diseases, microbes and viruses are described scientifically.

8. Some words are entered from Arabic or European languages and they are changed phonologically or semantically, thus their pronunciations and meanings in Persian and their origins are mentioned.
9. Sometimes one or several words are referred to one or several words for explaining, in this case there should be → sign before the word to be referred or after the mentioned word hm (be hamin made rojo shavad = see this material) is mentioned (Moein, 1991).

4.3.3 Semantic Order and Organization in Dehkhoda Dictionary

Dehkhoda dictionary is a historical dictionary. Thus, it is expected that meanings are written according to their historical order. That is, first the oldest meaning of a word is written, and then their derivational meaning or meanings are written. In the case one word is used in two or three meanings and these meanings are mentioned based on the contract. In another case that a word is used in more than one function, it should be done the same as before, but examining several entries in this dictionary shows that

1. Historical order is not observed and in some cases the new meaning has been mentioned before the old meaning.

2. In some cases, there is no differentiation among various meanings of a word.

3. Some examples are not used in their places.

4. Meaning repetition is repeated in some entries two times. For example kafe has mentioned as the entry two times in the meaning of scale, one time as narrated from Nazem al-Ateba, Monthi al-Arb and Aghrab al-Mvared (in page 28, first edition) without example and another time as narrated from Borhan Rashidi and Ghias with several examples in the first edition at page 29. (Sadeghi, 2009).


4.4 Synonyms and Antonyms

Synonyms and antonyms are also of lexicographical information that sometimes is the basis for describing and defining dictionary and sometimes they have complementary and helpful role and are used to reinforce definitions.

Lexical units that have the same meaning are called synonyms and semantic relationship among them is called synonymy. Mist of linguists and logicians believe that there is no complete synonymy. The purpose of synonyms is words that are referred to one reality, but reflect different attitudes of the speaker or writer or their context or usage are different. Those words are synonymous that have the same general meaning or are very similar; however, one or several meanings of them may be are somehow different (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

Persian is very rich from the perspective of having synonyms or pseudo-synonyms and the richness springs form a very long time. Persian also has borrowed various words and linguistic elements from other languages. In this borrowing process, usually meaning or all the related Persian words or the meaning of borrowed words or both of them have changed. For example one synonym in Persian:

Zire be Kerman bordan (Carry cumin to Kerman ,to carry coal to New castle)

This idiom have many synonyms, some of them are as follows

- Khar be khorasan, , choghandar be harat (degrading) (Donkey to Khorasan, , beetroot to Harat .

- Paye ran malakh be Soleyman, Hekmat be yunan, hekmat be Loghman

- Femur of locust to Suleiman, philosophy to Greece, wisdom to Loghman (humility)
- Zar be madan, gohar be kan, lael be Kan, Zareh be khorshid, gol be boostan, dor be darya (Gold to mine, gem to treasure, ruby to treasure, particle to the sun, flower to garden, pearl to sea)
- Khormaye Basreh, shekar be Khozestan (Date to Basra, sugar to Khuzestan)
- Diba be Rome, bord be Yaman, abgineh be Halab, ood be Hend, felfel be Hendustan (Fine silk to Rome, winning to Yemen, glass to Aleppo, aloes to India, pepper to India)
- Kase be chin, nafe be Khatn, Kaman be Chach, lael be Badkheshn, tir be Fooran (Bowl to China, musk to Khatan, bow to Chach, ruby to Badkhshan, arrow to Transoxania) (Hashemi Minabad, 2007)

### 4.4.1 Synonyms Functions

Synonyms have different functions; sometimes they are used for defining and sometimes are helpful for defining as well as sometimes are used for clarifying semantic and grammatical and usage relationships (Hashimi Minabad, 2007). In synonymous definition a lexicographer tells the user that the entry has a meaning the same as those words that he/she is familiar with them. Synonyms are used to define word. For example:

- Chame (ballad): poem, ghazal, anthem
- Por (full): overfilled, filled, brimful, replete, anti-empty

In comprehensive and large dictionaries that space and volume are not limited, synonymous definitions are not used as the main as the main method, but they are used for proving and reinforcing other kinds of definitions, usually small dictionaries benefit more from this method.
If synonymous definitions are used accurately, positive results will be provided. It is recommended that lexicographers should use usage labels and give short tips in order to clarify the differences of synonyms. (Hashemi Minabad, 2007). For example:

Begozar zir sart k khab ashofte nabini? Laghe rishet? (Put it beneath your head in order to not have bad dreams deserving your beard?) It is used if the addressee is male. laghe giset? (deserving your tress) it is used the addressee is female and if the thing is money that is small amount is rejected, in this situation it is said that ‘bede mast bekhar bemal sare kachalet’ (Shamloo, 1958). (Buy yogurt and smear it on your bald head). Auxiliary synonyms. It is possible that some dictionaries after defining the word, provide one or several words as synonyms. This strategy proves and reinforces the definition and synonyms have auxiliary functions in such cases.

For example vazeh (clear): ashkar (apparent), a matter which is perceived without contemplation (Hashmi Minabad, 2007).

4.4.2 Synonym Feature

1. Synonym should be simpler, clearer, familiar, and more frequent than the referred one.

2. Synonym should be of formal language. Formal language is a language that educated people use it and it is used in newspapers, books and papers.

3. Synonym should be single-meaning and if it is poly-meaning, meaning number should be mentioned.

4. We should be confident that synonyms should be mentioned in their places. For example in Dehkhoda dictionary the word ‘sarir’ is mentioned for capital city as the synonym that is not in its place.

5. Synonyms should not be more general than the referred one and include it semantically (Sadeghi, 2009).
4.4.3 Antonyms

Antonyms add useful information to the words and contribute to their semantic difference. Antonyms are of semantic relationship that has a closer relationship with synonyms. Antonyms include the contrastive relationship among words. Bringing synonyms and antonyms together help the user interpret words accurately.

As there is no complete synonym, it is true about antonym. Extremism interpretation of antonyms as having completely contrastive meanings results in the case that most of words do not have an antonym. Although most dictionaries mention many synonyms, but they pay less attention to antonyms and sometimes they bound themselves to not mentioning antonyms (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

4.4.4 Synonyms in Dehkhoda Dictionary

One of the advantages of Dehkhoda dictionary is that helps poets and writers considerably. Mentioning all the synonyms of a word at the bottom of it has removed problems in previous dictionaries such as at the bottom of Chekame, Chameh is written that makes the reader confused and finally making sense of the word become impossible. In Dehkhoda dictionary at the bottom of each word, all its synonyms are mentioned. For example at the bottom of the word atash (fire) we see these meanings: one of the four elements, that is heat and light that is obtained from firing material such as wood, coal and the like. Its synonyms are in Persian as azar, azar varzam, tash, adis, vedad, pelk, kakh, mokh, hir, nar, saier, ajoz, om al-ghori and in poetic language it is interpreted as ghebleye jamshid, ghebleye dehghan, ghebleye zardosht, ghebleye majoos, takhteye zar neykh (Dehkhoda, 1958).

4.4.5 Synonym and Antonym in Moein Dictionary

In this dictionary at the end of each meaning and concept of each entry, synonym or synonyms, antonym or antonyms and difference or differences are
mentioned after it, for example in the word pinedooz (shoemaker) it is written than someone who makes ripped shoes, and its synonyms are paredooz, reghedooz in Persian and in piyadenezam (infantry) it is written that soldiers who are on foot, and its synonyms are piyade sepahi, mgh and savare nezam(cavalry) (Moein, 1992).

4.5 Phonetic and Pronunciation Information

In most cases, the aim to refer to the dictionary is merely accessing to phonetic information and lexical units. Regardless of this issue, phonetic and pronunciation information are of the most necessary grammatical subsections, because one of the important distinctive criteria among lexical units is their phonetic and pronunciation features. Based on this matter, in trusted dictionaries, exact phonetic information such as pronunciation, emphasis, stress and phonological boundary are provided for the entries. For providing exact phonetic information, phonology and phonemics experts' knowledge should be benefited (Ghatreh, 2007).

Since there is no one-to-one juxtaposition between writing and pronunciation or writing form and speech from, writing form cannot reflect speech form accurately. Sometimes for showing one phoneme, several letters are used or single form states different sounds or single sounds are written differently. Some of letters are written, but are not pronounced and some of the sounds have not writing signs in writing. Generally, problems of writing system inability lead to transcription of entries.

In dictionaries, first high frequent pronunciations are recorded, and then other pronunciations with practical backgrounds such as colloquial, dialectical and social dialects are written. The pronunciation of words in the past was in written form not in speech form and it was in contrast with real pronunciation. Some of the pronunciations in Dehkhoda and Moein dictionary were not in use in that time. New dictionaries record
pronunciations in such a manner that they are pronounced in speech segments. Today lexicographers do not record pronunciations themselves, but they assign this work to pronunciation record experts. These experts extract and transcript pronounced forms in well-equipped laboratories.

International pronunciation Alphabet is a system that lexicographers found their pronunciation alphabet based on it. Despite its detailed features, more exact signs are necessary for linguistic atlases and phonological researches (Hashemi Minabad, 2007).

Some of the necessary points that should be taken into account:
1. Appropriate selection of pronunciation alphabet for showing vowels and consonants
2. Selection of appropriate signs for indicating suprasegmental features of emphasizes and stress, For example:

Referring to different phonetic types of language elements such as sekteh, sakteh, sajdeh, sojdeh, sejdeh

Recording speech and real pronunciations of language elements like ejtema, estema, ztema for the word society (Ghatreh, 2007).

4.5.1 Methods of Transcription in Persian Dictionaries

4.5.1.1. Methods of Transcription in Dehkhoda Dictionary

Transcription method in Dehkhoda dictionary is in such a manner that movable letters movement are put into the brackets [ ] and immovable letters record is excluded. If the letter before *Alef* is marked with the vowel point fatheh and if the letter before *Ye* is marked with the vowel point Maksoor as well as if the letter before is marked with the vowel point of Mazmoom, their movement are not recorded. Stressed letters are shown with repetition for example Madde [dd] (Material) and if it is movable, movement is put on the second repetitive letter. The letter *Ye* that is pronounced a is written aa, for example yahyaa [aa]. If it is pronounced, it is put between two curvatures
for example ekrah [ah], meh [mh] and if it is not pronounced, it is not mentioned for example, fateme (Dehkhoda, 1958).

**4.5.1.2 Method of Transcription in Moein Dictionary**

In the introduction of Moein dictionary, a detailed issue is mentioned regarding pronunciation and some parts are mentioned here.

1. The exact pronunciation of each word is recorded using Latin alphabet of orient lists. In recording each word transliteration is used not transcription. (sample, 8)
2. If a word has two or more pronunciations, all the pronunciation forms are mentioned for example nahadan, nehadan and hazar, hezar.
3. Words borrowing from Arabic or other languages and have got different pronunciation, if it is popular the Persian pronunciation is the criterion not the foreign one.
4. In pronunciation of Arabic, Turkish, Mongolian, we consider Iranian pronunciation as the criterion not the original one (Moein, 1996).

**4.5.1.3 Method of Transcription in Sokhan Dictionary**

In the introduction of this dictionary, transcription method is introduced as follows:

1. Regarding those words which have two or more pronunciation, we the authors showed duality and pluralism of pronunciations with respect to the fact that pronunciations still live in different areas such as the media and speeches. For example transcription is like this an-mud (o,a) ne.
In cases that parentheses make reading difficult, instead of parenthesis, we mentioned the transcription of both pronunciations separately. For example for the word magnitude, its equivalent in Persian is written as obohhat, obbohat.

2. The standard pronunciation concerning non-Persian words is their common pronunciation in Persian, not their pronunciation in the source language for example the word mostakhdem (servant) is pronounced mostaxdem and the standard is this pronunciation.

3. In some entries that all their components are Arabic but have the structure of Persian, we have separated the components according to the structure of Persia. For example the transcription of ezafe vazn is (over weight) ezafe-vazn.

4. Regarding abbreviation entries that are borrowed from European languages and are common in Persian, we have separated the components of the word by points, for example the transcription of ICU is ay.si.yu.

5. One of the specialized features of transcription in this dictionary is paying attention to the beginning hamze. Basically, no word is started by vowel and what are started in the form of a, e, o, -a, i, u, is started, in fact hamzes are existed at the beginning of them that have not been taken into account. Moreover, in contemporary Persian, the phonetic value of hamze and eyn is the same. Thus, two words ali (organic) and ali (excellent) are pronounced the same and their transcriptions are also the same. Based on this, we transcribed both as ali. Several other examples are namely, Abr (cloud), esm (name), ordak (duck), amiq (deep), elm (science), onvan (title).

6. We have not mentioned lexical phonological changes that have occurred generally in Persian. For example the change of final vowel a to e as in the word of Khane
(house) that was pronounced xana in the past, today is pronounced generally as xane.

7. We have tried to consider pronunciation in transcription instead of written form, as we transcribed shanbabe as sambe not sanbe (Anvari, 2003).

4.6 Examples approached in Persian dictionaries

A French proverb says a dictionary without example is a lifeless body. Verbal examples are helpful means in identifying meanings, semantic separation understanding usage or implied meanings and providing useful information. Examples provide the lexicographer great facilities and help the reader to understand the concept of words (Hashemi Minabad, 2007). Today examples in monolingual dictionaries are integral and essential. Users and learners need one or several sentences that show their usage in contexts in addition to the definitions that describes lexical units. These sentences reinforce the meanings of lexical units, and this matter takes place by showing the usage of the words in real contexts. Examples help users and learners to find a specific meaning among different meanings. Examples are useful in cases that meanings seem synonymous apparently but subtle differences are in the meanings. They are also constructive and clarifying in cases that ambiguity and doubt possibly can mislead users.

Monolingual dictionary should pattern language learners' lexical ability because many users of monolingual dictionaries are individuals that the language of the dictionary is not their native language. Therefore, in a comprehensive dictionary, definitions are written exactly. In such dictionary, examples are various and sometimes these examples are more effective than definitions themselves for users.
A lexicographer should be aware that not only users and learners' need for encoding is important but also their need for decoding is more important because it gives them confidence to produce new sentences and do that like natives. In the past, lexicographer's main aim was more concerned with encoding; dictionaries were merely tools for interpreting and translating languages. Not producing language creatively and naturally, but modern lexicography takes step in satisfying both needs, thus in this regard, examples are of great importance (Jafari, 2007). Therefore, examples should justify and clarify words.

4.6.1 The Background of Example

Using examples is a new tradition that was started in the western world by Samuel Janson (1709-1784), while this tradition existed in Islamic lexicography from a long time. The earliest Iranian dictionaries were accompanied with poetic examples. However, the examples were chosen exclusively from poetry. Examples extracted from prose have been flourished in the recent time. Some old lexicographers composed poems containing the words, if they could not find that words in poems. Today visual examples are an innovation that is borrowed from western world lexicography (Hashemi Minabad, 2007). Self-made examples are not real reflections from natural language; it only shows the register and lexicographer's idiolect.

Researchers in their studies regarding users and learners’ references and dictionaries and their efficiency concluded that even top students and language learners have problems in using language. One of the solutions to the problem is providing linguistic information directly and accessibly as examples in dictionaries.
A couple of papers and research are titled about investigating examples and their usage. One of the recent ones in this regard was done by lzdabl (1978). He divided the usage of examples into two parts:

A) Receiving functions or decoding B) productive functions or encoding.

1. Decoding Functions
   (i). Helping user in clarifying single meanings
   (ii). Helping user in distinguishing among different meanings of a word.

2. Productive Functions or Encoding
   (i). Helping user in teaching correct and common grammatical patterns.
   (ii)Showing them with outstanding and acceptable homophones and helping user in producing them when using language
   (iii) Helping user in writing and speaking in that language in accordance with language users’ stylistic normality.

From 1970s, lexicographers and linguists found that definitions and explanations’ explicitness is not so much that only by referring to them and without needing to other factors, the meaning of the word will be completely clarified. The result of this analysis indicated that clarifying task is no longer assigned to the definition, but there will be another clause following each definition that do the task, this additional clause is example.

When we say example, it means that it should justify the usage of the word and be reasoning for the definition. In language, we use a formula rules that is the definition of the word to understand the meaning of the word. On the other hand, we use example which is the usage of the word. Therefore, lexicographer uses examples for
compensating the default of the definition and what is a not expressible using formula rule.

4.6.2 Example and Evidence

Lexical unit in dictionaries may include examples written by the lexicography that include narrative examples which are adopted from corpus. The most essential point is that example should show the word usage in its context. In lexicography, the task of the editor is to show the usage of the lexical unit in a sentence. The examples of sentences have descriptive and clarifying roles.

Lexicographers’ viewpoints are different concerning editor-written examples. Some of them prefer free and independent editor-written sentences to convoluted example sentences, but they avoid imagining in making examples in order to show word usage because they fear that they may make mistakes in describing definitions, while example sentences are safe from these dangers and will not bring such uncertainty. Moreover, example sentences are related to real usage. Examples of the meanings are proved through their extracting contexts. That is, in fact they call text to witness (Martin, 1989).

4.6.3 Optimum Feature of Examples in Lexicography

Examples have some features that the most important ones are as follows:

1. Example should show outstanding and pattern, usage, that is, it should represent the same pattern, structure and context in which they are used by language learners. People use language creatively and unconsciously and they search for lexical and semantic boundaries exactly for making effective relationships.

2. Example should reflect natural language, and follow natural language discourses and in fact it should reflect linguistic capacity. According to Sinclair, naturalness means
that sentences should not be used separately, but they should be used with other linguistic components.

3. Example should be valid and trustworthy in a way that user can use it as a following pattern for producing other sentences.

4. Example should show features of the entry. Simple and school sentences which are usually neutral are not worthy. For example, the sentence I love book does not contribute to the definition of the word.

5. Words used in example should be consistent stylistically, that is they should be coherent colloquially, informally, literally and formally.

6. Example should show correct grammatical identity of the word and indicate the most common syntactical structures.

7. Example use in some lexical units such as prepositions, conjunctions and affixes is an indispensable matter (Jafari, 1977).

8. The mentioned units have not specific meanings and because of this, they are defined practically and definition-writer tries to define them by mentioning their usage and function. It is evident that in such cases, definitions are unable to clarify their meanings regardless of their contexts, thus, example is the only possible way to compensate this failure. For example, see the definition of the word “with” from Collins Cobuild dictionary:

- You use ‘with’ to indicate that there is a close link between two things.

And the following example is provided to clarify its meaning:
• We tend to forget that there are risks associated with ordinary fuels.

(Cobuild, 1994, p. 1676)

9. For some entries, words such as conjunctions or prepositions, providing long examples is unavoidable. In such cases, lexicographer writes one long but efficient example instead of some short and inefficient examples. In Cobuild dictionary, the following example is mentioned for “therefore”:

• I am not a member of England myself; therefore it would be rather impertinent of me to express an opinion. ((Cobuild, 1994)

10. It is better that poetic examples should be avoided, because poems have their own discourse, and in most cases, do not follow natural language. Moreover, poetic example may trick lexicographer to record uncommon usage.

Example should be literally beautiful, interesting and fascinating as much as possible. Using inappropriate and indecent utterances and curse should be avoided in dictionaries. Example can teach standard hand-writing to the user (Jafari, 1977).

4.6.4 Approaches of Some Persian Dictionaries Towards Examples:

4.6.4.1. Moein dictionary

Mohammad Moein in the introduction of Moein dictionary under the title of Shavahed va Amsaleh (evidences and examples), 1985 says about example that “in this dictionary, our attention and focus is on example instead of evidence. Evidences are mentioned only in necessary places. Mentioning evidence is for proving the correctness of word usage in its special meaning. This necessity is satisfied in referring to etymologies and derivations to some extent and makes us somehow needless in bringing independent evidence, but it should be said about example that in necessary
cases examples are mentioned and other examples are excluded in order to not make the
dictionary lengthy.

Moein dictionary, as the author has mentioned, is without example. He believes
that the fault resulting from example is compensated by other parts that can convey
meaning to the user. Moreover, the limitation of size and space made him to exclude
examples for most entries. A short review of Moein dictionary shows its shortage on
example which has degraded its quality to a large extent. For example one of the
meanings of esteghna (magnanimity) is mentioned naz (coyness) and its definition is a
single word, in fact it is referred to synonym that, of course it is completely unfamiliar
for foreign users or even for native Persian speakers. Definition absolutely does not
help its understanding but an example could contribute to its understanding.

Another point is that most of Moein examples are poetic examples. Understanding poem sometimes is more difficult than the word itself, while the main
point is simplifying the meaning of the word.

4.6.4.2 Dehkhoda Dictionary

Dehkhoda dictionary is filled with examples in verse and in prose. Sometimes
different examples are mentioned for a word that occupies several pages. Dehkhoda did
this work extremely. But these different examples do not help the user dramatically as
they are in poetic language and poetic language has a special discourse and does not
follow natural language poems that are filled with stylistic, semantic, syntactical and
grammatical abnormalities. For example, the word pazhmorde shodan (to wilt) is
defined: roy be khoshki avorde, chin va shkn be hm resande, be taravat. These two
couplet are also mentioned as examples:

ای غوک چنگلو ک چو بز مرده ی برگ کوک خواهی که جون چگونگی پرپی سوی هوا
The crippled frog pale as a plant pale, if you wish to jump as a bird.

Every flower soon get withered, death will come to any and bury under loads of soil.

As it is shown, reading these poems is very difficult for most of the users instead of helping clarifying meaning. Most of these poems are filled with difficult and unfamiliar words that do not contribute to understanding of the meaning and even make meaning more difficult. In fact, these examples can be a beautiful literary selection and cannot be to considered as necessary standards for doing lexicographer’s tasks and also they are inefficient to clear the meaning. (sample,1)

Dehkhoda, in his dictionary introduction, mentions that “some people may criticize the abundance of examples, but if all examples were not collected, all the main and figurative meanings of words were impossible to obtain and because collecting these examples was necessary, we did that for showing the word usage, one or two examples were written, but abundance of examples was only for showing different usage of the word, thus, remaining all examples was necessary. On the other hand, it may be said that mentioning all the examples was not necessary, but it is not right, because being famous for a nation is infamous for the other nation and the famous one may be sometimes famous and sometimes infamous and even sometimes become rare and vanished and making sense of them will be impossible (Dehkhoda, 1958).

4.6.4.3 Emrooz Persian Pictionary

This dictionary is rather a contemporary Persian dictionary. The authors (Sadri Afshar, and et al) claim that it is written based on new lexicography methods and styles. In the introduction of this dictionary, it is mentioned about examples that sometimes for explaining word usage, example or examples are mentioned. Examples are chosen
randomly from books, magazines, newspapers or speakers and to be distinguished, they are in Iranic and between < > signs.

Some examples in this dictionary are mentioned below:

- Daro peykar (doors and walls): doors and a set of what surround and guard a building
- Sooz (fervency): what cause physical and psychological harm.
- Sooze sarma, sooz gham (coldness, fervency of sorrow)

In this dictionary, regarding figurative idioms and combinations, only definitions are mentioned and examples are excluded.

- zire bal gereftan (taking care of): support

In this case, example can be very clarifying.

- Agar man pedar dashtam zire balamo migereft va man mitoonestam ezdevaj konam /If I had a father taking care of me, I could marry/.

4.6.4.4 Great Sokhan Dictionary

This dictionary is the newest Persian dictionary. A look at its introduction and approaches clarifies that its authors were aware of the clarifying role of example in the dictionary and tried to close to the standards of examples in lexicography as much as possible. In this dictionary there has been differentiation between example and evidence and the following definition is mentioned for them:

Example is a sentence or combination that is made on the authors and editors’ linguistic instinct or is obtained from the listened or read ones. Evidence is a sentence, phrase or combination that is extracted from written resources and its source is mentioned (Anvari, 2003).
Functions are also defined for examples or evidences that are mentioned in the dictionary.

The objective of mentioning examples and evidences is helping its users to:

1. Understand the meaning of words and combinations.
2. Know grammatical position of words.
3. Be familiar with their usage in sentences or phrases.
4. Access to simples, in speaking or writing.
5. Access to the document of word usage and historical combinations.

Therefore, it is mentioned in the introduction that the principle in this dictionary is providing examples and evidences, but in some cases, for specialized words and terms of sciences and sports, evidences and examples are not provided.

Pay attention to some entries and their examples that are chosen randomly:
Pa (playmate) 1- company 2- rival 3- comrade 4- playmate

- Paye bazi, paye ghomar paye sabte mehmanihay ma bod. (The playmate of play and gamble was our parties’ stable playmate.
- Chera nemi ayi bazi ? paye bazi kam darim. Why don’t you come to play? We need one more playmate.

In this case, first example is mentioned and then evidence and of course, it is mentioned in the introduction of the dictionary that in some cases that both evidence and example are mentioned, first example is mentioned then evidence. In most entries, only examples are provided and no evidence is provided.
Az khod bi khod shodan (to become drunk)

1- Go unnatural and abnormal
   - I felt like a drunken man
   - Hapli hapoo (careless and chaotic) 1- careless you were not so careless in the past.

2. Chaotic conditions were chaotic

   The above-mentioned cases are all lexical units that are very common and it seems completely impossible that there is no provided evidence in the corpus and it is unclear that why examples are only provided and evidences are not provided. Moreover, provided examples are not optimum ones, and do not clarify a particular feature of lexical units, and in fact are neutral. Of course in this dictionary, in most of lexical units, no example and evidence are provided especially in cases that lexical unit is referred to another entry (Jafari, 1977).

   - Be paye kasi istadan (waiting for someone): be paye kasi neshastn
   - Motadakhel (Conjunct) : dakhlu shode dar yedigar, dar ham rafte, amikhte.

In these units, providing evidences as proving their validity is necessary, because they are not used today or they have limited usage.

   Of course, as mentioned in the introduction of this dictionary, evidences and examples are not provided for scientific words and terms that is a common and wise method, but the same dictionary has provided evidences for many specialized lexical units. For example, Verk (plants): a shrub-like and ornamental plant from rose family.

Bread is the gift of burning woods.
Bread needs to be baked before Eid, any of the last days be Eid.

However providing a poetic evidence from an old text is not suitable for understanding a specialized term.

4.7 Verbal Evidences

As it was mentioned before and also in Moein dictionary, there is difference between evidence and example. The evidence is extracted from written resources and its sources are mentioned. But example is a phrase or combination that lexicographer makes it. Evidences have various uses including: 1- For understanding word 2. For learning word or its pedagogical usage 3. For using word, in producing language.

There are different views about the types of evidence from chronological point of view. For example,a). Historical order from the oldest evidence to the newest one b). Usage order such as verse and prose, and speech, formal and informal, colloquial and slang c). Geographical order such as, formal language and inter boundary and intra-boundary vernacular.

4.7.1 Sources of Evidences

Verbal evidence is mainly quoted from sources that honesty and lexicography principles demand that the source or sources should be cited. The best work of dictionary should cite the evidence from where extracted from the author or poet, work, page and poem or text as done in any other research. Of course, validity of evidences is not so important, but their pedagogical and informative power is important.

4.7.2 Functions of Evidences

In formativeness is one of the main features of evidences. Perhaps each of verbal evidences has one or some information about meaning, usage, grammatical form,
collocations and the like on their own. The evidence that has no important information will be useless (Hashmi Minabad, 2007). For example, in alphabetical-analogical dictionary there are unnecessary evidences in definitions of some words. Pay attention to the following example: Kafsh (shoes) (pe) (alef), where is my shoes, who was? Sohrab called. He/she was acquaintance like air with leaf, my mother was slept, and Manoochehr and Parvaneh and maybe all people of the city. Khordad night goes by as slow as a elegy in seconds and cool breeze grows in my green margin of blanket. Migration aroma comes. My pillow is filled with swallows’ songs (Sohrab Sepehri); Broon kesh pay as in gahvareye tang/ke kafsh tang d ard pay ra lang (Nizami); Tohi pay raftn be az kafsh tang/saray tohi beh ke dar khane jany (Sa’di); a type of cover that protects feet and usually is made of leather or some other strong material (Moshiri,1991).

These evidences not only provide any useful information but also long and unnecessary. Evidences always provide more information. If after definition of the word Ziba (beautiful) evidences such as beautiful face, beautiful flower, and beautiful dress are mentioned, more information definitely will be acquired.

Evidence may be false or true, if it is quoted from written or spoken texts it is real and it is made by lexicographer himself/herself it may be false or artificial. One of the lexicographers’ problems is that it is possible that they will find no informative and clarifying evidence, thus the only solution is that they should make them by themselves. Some evidences reflect author or speaker’s special usage and idiolect. There is also possibility that such evidences may cause mistake and wrong images regarding words in user’s mind.
For example, an example of evidence in Emrooz Persian dictionary: consonant: silent < He/she was sitting silently and was watching one of the movies > and sometimes some evidence provide no evidence to the user, one example from alphabetical – comparative dictionary: Setareh (star): of girls’ names, evidence: Hello Setareh, it’s the celebration of early spring.

4.8 Grammatical Information in Persian Dictionary

The most important syntactic information that is provided for the entries is their syntactical category or grammatical identity, because with the use of them in addition to the grammatical function of lexical unit, some other information about their usage in collocations will be provided. For example when syntactical category of a lexical unit is specified as noun, the user indirectly find that the lexical unit can be used in subject, object and complement position (Ghatreh, 2007).

Dictionaries specify two main types of words: 1- grammatical morphemes that have grammatical function in language such as article, pronoun, preposition, conjunction, affixes and the like 2. Lexical morphemes or referent words are words which refer to nature and creatures outside linguistic system and thing and phenomena outside the word. The discourse components in dictionary are shown by using abbreviations such as alef (noun), alfe je (plural noun), s (adjective), mas (infinitive), gh (adverb), s.t (superlative adjective), and words are classified based on their function in the sentence and their relationships with each other.

One of the main weaknesses and criticized points of most dictionaries is that they provide semantic information more rather than grammatical information. Discourse components are mentioned in dictionaries, but irregular forms such as irregular plural or irregular verb forms Arastan, arast, shomordan, shomar, navakhtn,
navaz, ara, aray (present and past roots) are often ignored. Modern dictionaries are inclined to provide more grammatical information. Such information is usually provided in learner dictionaries.

Some words have more than one grammatical function. Some of the dictionaries consider each of grammatical functions as one entry and specify them by numbers. Some other ones mention all lexical grammatical functions following the entry, but arrange them in the order of their common usage or derivational function. For example, zibe (beautiful) and khoob (good) and adjectives that can get the noun function to themselves, mahiane (monthly) that is both adjective and adverb (Hashemi, Minabbad, 2007).

Persian structure has different dimensions and particular complexities and moreover, no complete comprehensive grammar has been written by grammarians and linguists. It is one of the problems in Persian lexicography. Therefore, providing grammatical function and identity of words is used differently in Persian dictionaries.

**4.8.1 Grammatical Information in Dehkhoda Dictionary**

This dictionary has provided a complete Persian morphology and syntax course. In Dehkhoda dictionary, not only single letters but also meaning of prepositions, conjunctions, sounds and meaning of idioms in morphology and syntax are described. Moreover, nine or ten types of word such as noun, verb, pronoun, adjective, etc are mentioned in morphology and syntax in a detailed way that by collecting such discussions, a complete grammar book can be written (Dehkhoda, 1958).
4.8.2 Grammatical Information in Moein Dictionary

Moein dictionary in addition to discuss in this regard has provided detailed explanations regarding grammatical function of words. Grammatical information in this dictionary is mentioned as follows according the editor.

1- Grammatical identity of each word will be mentioned in parentheses. In this case, word types (noun, number, adjective, verb, adverb, preposition, conjunction, sounds) are provided with abbreviations. Furthermore, subjective noun, past participle, subjective adjective, objective adjective, likened adjective and exaggeration mode are distinguished with abbreviations (Moein, 1996). Moreover a detailed explanations are provided regarding how identity record and grammatical function are mentioned in the introduction of the dictionary that is very trouble-shooter including:

1- Subjective adjective (ending in alef +noon), likened adjective, exaggeration mode are abbreviated under the title of subjective adjective.

2- Cardinal numbers are treated as nouns in some languages, here both cases (noun and number) are provided.

3- Ordinal numbers are treated as adjective here both are mentioned.

4- Following infinitives, their prepositions are provided for example pardakhtn az (to become free), pardakhtn be (to engage in), mashghol shodn (to proceed).

In infinitives, intransitive and transitive are provided.

The grammatical identity of a word in a case that does not change in different meanings subsequently, is only provided in its first meaning, and did not changed. For example in the case of word jamiyat (population), has several meanings viz., (alef) group, The number of people gathering in a place, The inhabitants of a village, city, state or country, Association (Moein, 1996).
4.8.3 Grammatical Information in Sokhan Dictionary

Sokhan dictionary has employed particular conditions in this regard and mention that “grammatical identity is a part of dictionary that in which the identity of the word is specified grammatically (according to its usage in the sentence). Some employed principles in this dictionary are:

1. Grammatical identity in this dictionary is provided after its etymological discussion and it is specified in parenthesis with abbreviations. For example: ab (water) (alef, noun), ehsas (feeling) {ar. Ar} (alef, mas, infinitive)

2- Whenever grammatical identity of a word has changed in the next meaning or meanings, after each number, a new identity is mentioned: for example, banafsh (violet) 1- (n) of combined colors 2- (ad) of such color. In combinations (generally combined infinitives), grammatical identity is mentioned after the title of combination: tasmim (decision): gereftan (making) (mas. alef, infinitive).

3- Grammatical identities mentioned in the dictionary are noun, sound noun, gerund, past root, present root, suffix, prefix, subordinate, sentence of infinitive, letter, preposition, conjunction, interjection, pseudo sentence, verb ending, adjective, subjective adjective, objective adjective, relative adjective, pronoun, verb, adverb, infinitive (intransitive and transitive), diminutive, infix.

4. Gerund and infinitive product have not specified condition. In this dictionary, each word ending i, is considered infinitive product such as khobi (goodness) and tiregi (darkness) and each word that has infinitive meaning in itself, except infinitives, is considered gerund such as azmoon (test), amado shod (coming and going), rafter (behaviour), kontrol (control), moshaver (counsellor).
5- Generally our criterion about grammatical identity of words has been how to apply them in language. For example the word taslim (surrender) is infinitive in Arabic and is used as gerund identities in Persian, but in a sentence like mn taslim hastam (I am surrendered), it got adjectival identity to itself and we have mentioned its identity as adjective.

6. In some cases, we have given a word two identities, this is usually when that semantic separation has not been done and often the first identity is the original meaning of the word and the second one is related to its usage. For example abdarmani (hamas, alef) (hydrotherapy) (infinitive product, noun), ab sard kon (sef, alef) (water cooler) (adjective, noun), ahnroba (sef, alef) (magnetic) (adjective, noun)

7. Regarding intransitive and transitive infinitives, only infinitives that got ra sign of objective, are considered transitive infinitives.

8. Pseudo sentence is used in this dictionary in a wider sense and in addition to elements that are called pseudo sentence in grammar books, this concept is attributed to words and combinations that the concept of sentence is inferred from them as in the word goshi that in telephone conversation is used as lotfan goshi ra negah darid (please hold on) and sabr konid (wait). About words that are made with objective adjective from intransitive verb and have subjective adjective, it is as follows: Asoode (sefat) (relaxed) (adjective) made of objective adjective in subjective adjective sense (Anvari, 2003).

4.8.4 Grammatical Information in Emrooz Persian Dictionary

Emrooz Persian dictionary has a different perspective to grammatical discussions. In this dictionary it is mentioned about this discussion: Persian grammar is still very young and it is not more than several decades that it tries to come out from
unfair dominance of Arabic morphology and syntax by attempts of late Dr. Natel Khanlari, the pioneer in this regard. Thus, in addition to the many written Persian grammar books, still there are many unsolved problems.

On the other hand, it should be taken into account that sometimes grammatical nature of one word changes in singular and plural form and most of the time adjective is changed to noun. For example, when we say oo teriyaki ast ya teryakiha ra dastgir kardandnd that in the first case, teriyaki is an adjective and in the second one it is a noun (Sadri Afshar, 1958). In this dictionary, after colon sign: grammatical identity of the word is provided with abbreviations:

4.9 Encyclopedias’ Function

In the new era, reference books are very popular and modern technologies have made them more developed. Dictionary is the most common book for reference. The development of lexicon and lexicography has become a day to day affair using sophisticated tools and it increased their volume and variety. The technology also help us in the growth of such development.

The usefulness and function of encyclopedia is rather the same as dictionary. Idiom-writers believe that their task is recording idioms that are used practically and potentially in the general language or a jargon and technical language. It was assumed in the past that the important and usefulness of dictionary and encyclopedia is keeping away from perversion and change, and the lexicographer protects language from intentional manipulation and semantic change and inept definitions by correct and practical recording of language. But today they don’t consider such goal right because linguists believe that natural language is current and changeable and its important features are transferability and flexibility to convey meanings. Of course, it is against
artificial languages like Esperanto that has fixed rules and meaning and is also accessible to linguists. The same definition is true for scientific and technical terms.

Thus the usefulness and function of dictionary and encyclopedia is keeping accepted and common meanings in any language and that make the language understandable and transferrable to the readers. The need to change and updating dictionary and encyclopedia constantly is more than any other reference books.

All reference books are written in a particular period and social and cultural environment and for particular addressees and have certain functions, because use of them is limited and need repetitious revisions. Tool feature and efficiency accompanied with rapid change of science determine efficiency time of reference books especially dictionaries and encyclopedias. As the scientific society has a rapid and dynamic change, the need to revise, update and make practical dictionaries will be higher, and the user rate of previous dictionaries will be lower. It is because that the number and speed of presence of different types of reference books in a society is the sign for its scientific and cultural progress. With development of tools and increasing spread of communications, we are not living in a period that a dictionary or encyclopedia can be written for a century, but the best of them may last lesser than twenty years. In fact each work which is published in lexicography may be better than its previous ones in some cases, but never replaces them, and practicality of encyclopedia based more correct of used and common meaning of each entry is valuable and as much as a dictionary or encyclopedia has recorded a term more exactly and convey optimum and needed meanings to the user, it is more successful and trustable. (Mousavi, 2005).

Encyclopedias, in addition to common usefulness and features with dictionaries, can be used in smaller size and more portable manner because encyclopedia its users are more who deal with specialized sciences and encyclopedias more are specialized
areas. The authors of the dictionary should give attention to different aspects of a word and provide it as it is used in context in a simpler and easier manner for the users. The validity of a good dictionary depends on its correct record of language about a word or term in different aspects not to approve or reject its pure or ideal state. While the author or compiler of a dictionary does not write everything, but he/she chooses from sources.

4.10 The Impact of Persian Encyclopedias in Spreading Persian

Culture has a determining role in all arena of language. Culture has an effective standard-making and normal-maker in all languages. If a matter is mentioned in a dictionary, it is placed in reasoning and argumentation position and even a matter is wrong, people get accept it. The purpose of normal-maker is this. When a definition or spelling is recorded in a dictionary or a pronunciation is specified people accept it, all proves it and it is accepted as the standard or normal. For example Grim German dictionary, Robber French dictionary and Oxford English dictionary have their own impact and role in recording meaning, pronunciation, spelling and usage. When English people migrated from Europe to America, made a new society that its language gradually made difference with its mother language in Britain. Nave Webster found a newer and simpler handwriting than the British one, and used it in his dictionary in 1828 (Hashemi Minabad, 2007). The webster spelling is common now in American usage and this dictionary changed the spelling and handwriting of pattern in America.

Dictionaries direct linguistic matters to particular directions with their preferences. Dictionaries due to their connotations on validity and trust have clear and powerful symbols in recognizing and enabling language. It is this symbolic role of languages that grants social authority in addition to their linguistic authority, an authority for judging about linguistic behavior and a source for finding trusted linguistic patterns in lexical area. It is because, that dictionaries have a special role
position in planning language. Great Monolingual dictionaries like Oxford dictionary have a crucial role in compiling and reinforcing language (Sarli, 2013).

Dictionaries are written for describing language and in fact record its form and nature for further adaptation by the users. A great number of dictionaries in a language enrich it. Many of words and combinations that are used today in Persian, is not recorded in any dictionary. If comprehensive or various dictionaries are compiled, we can make equivalences for new concepts both native and foreign words. For example in traditional textile manufacturing in Iran, there are many subtle and exact terms. We can find exact equivalence in Persian for the modern textile terms and avoid using foreign words. If these terms are recorded, it will also help the growth of language accommodative newer concepts of terms.

Dictionaries have a very effective role in spreading Persian in inside and outside the country, and enrichment of lexicon and lexicography can spread and reinforce it not only in Iran but also in across the world. For example specialized dictionaries and glossaries that are published by markaze nashre danshgahi (a center for academic publications) are popular among experts due to their exactness and observation of research rules. Some of the terms of these dictionaries have been used more commonly than those of other one due to their acceptability.

Specific fields and areas that have more written dictionaries are usually more studied and used and also are widespread in society. Certainly, the progress of one specialized field is concerned with its number of dictionaries. The existence of good and effective dictionaries plays a positive role in spreading the knowledge of that field. When a field is close to its advanced levels a dictionary will be written on it.
4.11 Persian Lexicography Problems

Lexicography is filled with problems. One of the earliest problems in this area is concerned with Persian writing. One of the problems is about combinations, if a word is a combination it should be written together but Persian writing does not allow writing everything together. When letter "r" comes, the next letter will be written separately and it cannot be attached to z or dal and the like and it is also a problem itself. Thus, the place of combination in the dictionary cannot be determined easily. When we encounter combinations, we do not know where they can be determined (Najafi, 2009). For example the idioms of az khoda bi khabr (be unaware of God) when we encounter this idiom in a text and want to know its meaning, you do not know where to find it in a dictionary. One lexicographer thinks that az khoda bikhabr builds an idiom unit. Therefore this combination is mentioned in alef following az, but user does not know what this idiom means, where it is started and ended that start from z. What can be done about such words? Lexicographers believe that the most important word in this set should be considered and thus we should refer to khoda (Najafi, 2009).

One of the problems is determining the most important word in the combination, or about idioms such as yek lenge pa, yak kalam, yak loghme, yek rast. The most important question is that following in which entry these idioms should be mentioned? For example, in Sokhan dictionary all the combinations that are started with yek are mentioned following y entry, but about yek dasti, yek tarafe, yek janebe, yek rangi? This is one of the problems of lexicography. The other problem is about subjects. What can be done in this regard regarding word choices? For example rakht o pakht, ratagh va fatagh should be treated as a independent entry or following the entry? or what about subjects, which both words are meaningful. For example daro divar, abo tab, saro ro, saro zolf, abo jaro or about the idiom of saro kale zadn that have no
relation to both sar and kale. Of course it can be said that each Lexicographer has did on his/her personal inclination, but general principles of these entry are not specified. One of the problems is about casual Persian. It means colloquial Persian when we write mire (What can be done about this?)

The other problem is about pronunciation. The pronunciation of what period and what city should be considered standard? When we want to transcript, the pronunciation of most of the words has changed over times and the pronunciations of different cities are different, what standard should be considered? For example words like azamat or azemat or nomayesh, nemayesh and namayesh, alaje, elaje.

Of course, some of these problems are referred to linguists’ for solution that should be provided for lexicographers. The other problem is grammatical identity of words. The determination of grammatical identity is not an easy work. Persian grammar continues its way in two paths of traditional and modern linguistics which are poles apart. In Dehkhoda and Moein dictionaries words such as mutant (dignity), ebrat (eye-opener), ebadat (worshipping) and hoviat (identity) are given grammatical identity, but in those dictionaries they are considered as infinitives that have tan or dan that according to their definition these are infinitives.

The fact is that our grammar-writing and lexicography tradition acts on somehow linguistic capitulation that is to implement Arabic rules in Persian. The word “ebadat” and the like are infinitive in Arabic not in Persian. In most cases, our men of letters have imposed Arabic rules on Persian. Moreover, the greatest lexicographer, Ali Akbor Ddehkhoda did not consider writing grammatical identity necessary in dictionary, and in some parts of his dictionary which was published in his time, entries did not have grammatical identity.
Determining grammatical identity is not an easy work and identifying adverbs in most cases is another issue. However, these are problems that a lexicographer should try to solve them. Another problem is deciding the etymology though this is not only lexicographer’s job and it is for others also. However, the lexicographer’s work has to try to determine the history of the oldest application of the word.

Another problem is semantic separation and its rankings that is one of the most difficult parts of lexicography. What can be done about words that have more than one hundred meaning? Those who compiled specialized dictionaries and assumed that lexicography is an easy work and worked in this area, saw that problems are more than their imagination, thus they abandoned lexicography. In specialized dictionaries, each word usually has one meaning and rarely a word has multiple meanings, but in language dictionary, everyday language and its words have various meanings that are not related to each other and have not semantic likeness.

There are two methods for ranking meanings: diachronic and synchronic. Diachronic order is that we mention semantic change from the past to the present to get the present meaning, while some people act opposite and provide newer meaning earlier but this is not common. The common method among lexicographers is to mention the oldest meaning first and the contemporary meanings and semantic changes after it. In Sokhan dictionary, it is opposite; in a way that the new meaning is mentioned first and old meaning after it. But we cannot track semantic change relationship through this method. Synchronic order is that we should determine various meanings of the word based on its frequency in a sense that as its frequency is higher, it should be mentioned first and the lower one at last. The good thing about this method is that we can compile various dictionaries for example those which have higher frequency should be taught and learned earlier for students in classroom. For example
for the first grade of elementary and the highest frequent ones and for higher grades, the lower ones should be provided.

This is a method for lexicography and it has pedagogical implications. Finding semantic association among words and specifying its order is one of the most difficult works of lexicography. After all, the most difficult problem of lexicography is defining entries. In the world, there is no dictionary which all its definitions are exact and can show all meanings of a word, in other words it should be comprehensive and restrictive. This problem is widespread in all dictionaries, but it is more frequent in our dictionaries that we are encountered with unknown references. For example they have written alam (universe) for jahan (world) and jahan (world) for alam (universe), peyman (treaty) for ahd (promise) and ahd (promise) for peyman (treaty).

Regarding a word which has more than one meaning, dictionaries should define all its meanings. Definition is one of the most difficult works of lexicography that needs a long discussion and great effort and examples. When we want to provide definitions, noun by noun, adjective by adjective and verb by verb is defined. It means that we cannot define an adjective by a noun. This is an important problem with Sokhan dictionary. For example for definition, on badbadakbaz writes “the feature of someone who flies a kite”. This definition is mentioned for an adjective, but the feature of someone who flies a kite is in fact flying a kite not a kite flier, in fact the feature of noun and adjective is provided with noun.

The last point is about example and evidence that unfortunately did not gain its place in Persian dictionaries. In Moein dictionary example and evidence are different, the evidence is the one which is quoted, but the example is the one which is made by lexicographer (Njafi, 2009). Evidence and example complete definition and make
concepts. In Persian lexicography, providing evidence especially from prose texts has not been normal and we learned it from Europeans. Providing various examples in an exact way is useful for teaching Persian to non-Persian speakers, but until now such dictionary has not been compiled and providing various examples does not follow this aim.

4.12 Introduction of Several Famous Persian dictionaries in Brief

4.12.1. Moein Persian Dictionary

This dictionary is written by Dr. Mohammad Moein. This dictionary is one of the worthy Persian dictionaries which is compiled in six volumes and after the dictionary of Ali Akbar Dehkhoda which in fact is the Persian encyclopedia, is the complete one. The new method, that he employs and makes his dictionary different. In the introduction he mentioned that the method is to complete the dictionary based on the Larose dictionary. Of course in Moein dictionary, the methods from other dictionaries such as Almonjad Arabic to Arabic, Isingas Persian to English, Miler Persian to Russian, Webster English to English and Brockhouse German to German were followed.

In Moein dictionary, the first four volumes include words and its fifth and sixth volumes include proper historical and geographical nouns. The author has divided the book into four sections, introduction, words, foreign combinations and proper nouns. Foreign combinations are attached to the fourth volume and it is in Alphabetical order and includes about five thousand words.

Words in this dictionary are printed in two columns. After the word which is bolder than the definition, the record of the words is done by an agreed-upon Latin alphabet and their origins are put between [ ] and their grammatical signs are put.
between two brackets and then the definitions are written. If one word has more than
one meaning its meanings are numbered. Noun and verbal combinations and sentences
are provided after meaning or meanings. If the combination has various meanings, they
are numbered. For some words, necessary pictures are provided in the margins outside
the text. It has about one hundred thousand words except combinations (Dabirsiaghi,
1996).

Words including some of the common words in Persian, Arabic, Turkish,
Mongolian, Indian and other European languages words and idioms common in
Persian, and informal words are included in this book.

Regarding words, division of materials, spelling, pronunciation origin,
meanings and concepts, evidence and examples, synonyms and antonyms, grammar,
definition and approved words of Iranian academy also provided. According to what
the author mentioned in the introduction of the dictionary, the advantages of this
dictionary which are briefly as follows:

1. The present dictionary includes the features of famous European dictionaries
   such as Larose, Kiye, Webster, Broukhouse and Arabic Almonjad.
2. The number of this dictionary is more than new and old Persian dictionaries
   (except of Dehkhoda dictionary which is in fact an encyclopedia)
3. Considering proper nouns and including them into two volumes
4. Providing foreign combinations attached to the fourth volume.
5. Recording pronunciations using Latin letters
6. Providing origins, derivational components and proper nouns, this is the first
dictionary regarding this method.
7. Considering to the grammatical identity of words
8. Providing verbal morphology by referring to their infinitive, this matter has been unprecedented.

9. Providing in-use or non-in-use of words for the first time

10. Use of pictures, maps and different tables

11. Ranking of materials (words and proper nouns) for the time in Persian dictionaries.

12. Ranking of different meanings of a material that facilitates finding various meanings. This method is unprecedented in Persian dictionaries and many European ones (Moein, 1996).

4.12.2 Dehkhoda Dictionary

Dehkhoda dictionary is a great work and currently, it is the most detailed and apparently the most comprehensive Persian dictionary. Its first draft was founded by Allame Ali Akbar Dehkhoda, a man of letters, poet and a freedom fighter in the second half of thirteen century and beginning decades of fourteen century of Hijri Shamsi date. This great work which is considered as an encyclopedia by itself approximately contains all the words of the important Persian and Arabic and printed dictionaries, and the maximum attention has been paid to their quotations that would not repeat past errors. It includes thousands of words, combination, irony and proverb extracted from poems and prose and the other scientific and literary works that cannot be found in any Persian and Arabic books. For each word and its meaning and meanings, some poems or phrase from the past to the present are provided as evidences and examples and additionally historical and geographical proper nouns related to Iran and Islamic territory and some non-Islamic nations are provided. Furthermore, scientific, literary, grammatical, technical matters and different views, beliefs, sects, schools and figures of
speech are described so that it is become an encyclopedia instead of a dictionary (Dabiresiaghi, 1996).

The titles of this book are about two hundred thousand and its matters in proper nouns are about eighty thousands. The merits of the dictionary are comprised of:

1- The documentation of the words: the important merit of the dictionary is that its most words are documented from different evidences in verse and in prose and the extracted words definitely have several evidences. These evidences not only document the word but also imply their right meanings through different phrases and show words usage in different sentences in different meaning (real and figurative) (Moein, 1958).

2- Synonyms: one of the advantages of this dictionary is that all synonyms are mentioned following the meaning and this will be a great help to poets and writers.

3- Attention to morphology and syntax: this dictionary has a complete morphology and syntax course in Persian. With respect to the fact that until that time compiling was done Persian based on the morphological and lexical features of Persian. What was published were mostly translated or adaptations of western scholars on the basis of Arabic or some Indian experts. But in this dictionary, morphology and syntax rules are explained in details which are printed in some of its volumes.

4- Mentioning common words and local dialects, collecting idiomatical word, what is common today with correct recording and real and figurative meaning are of considerable matters. Recording scientific words, Allame Dehkhoda has tried to extract most of the scientific concepts and terms from different texts, and compare them with French words which were considered the international scientific language at that time.

5- The proper nouns of statesmen and places: another feature of Dehkhoda dictionary is that explanations and investigations about the proper nouns of statesmen and places are
provided in details and has provided worthy documents for each part, and in during forty five years of study and research, has compiled worthy documents for each part.

6-Using pictures: the pictures of plants, animals, historical statesmen, maps, economic statistical tables and different nations’ alphabets are provided in the dictionary. These sources made the work more worthy and they were also very effective in understanding matters.

The method of recording words: The other point is the erudite attention to the record of words, an innovative method that is very easy and clear in a way that for each word { } are provided and the movement of their movable letters are exactly provided and there is no necessity that provide consonants and provide signs for them opposite what was common in the past (Moein, 1958).

4.12.3 Sokhan Great Dictionary

Sokhan dictionary is written by Dr. Hassan Anvari and his colleagues. It is one of the worthy dictionaries that Persian has had until now and no doubt it has a special place along with Dehkhoda and Moein dictionary in Persian literature. Before this dictionary, if Dehkhoda dictionary is an encyclopedia in Persian literature, Moein dictionary can be a dictionary that has employed relatively a different method and followed the pattern of European dictionaries, is written principally and scientifically based on lexicography rules and methods.

It is a fact that change is not a phenomena that is limited to a special period of time, the new aspects of scientific lexicography and researches in this area and linguistics’ theories in Persian literature, we have seen changes in the dictionaries and weaknesses of the past dictionaries including Moein one (that was the most common used in the last decades in Persian) was rectified. Due to this fact, good dictionaries are
started to happen. The method of choosing words, attention to transcription, brevity, consistency in defining entries, attention to combinations and idioms, providing evidences and examples, attention to etymology, attention to different aspects of language such as expressive, moral, social and reference methods in definitions, words usage and benefiting from group works are among the most significant features of the dictionary, that such accuracy and delicacy has not been seen in other Persian dictionaries.

This dictionary, using old and new references could satisfy its particular and general users’ about words and combinations of old and contemporary texts. Anvari’s method in writing this dictionary has been more complete than the other ones. The linguistic corpus of this dictionary has been about two millions items of evidences that a major part of it is obtained from about four hundreds of old and contemporary texts. In the meanwhile, the authors’ tendency have been more towards contemporary language and using of about one hundred and fifty short and long stories of contemporary and other contemporary sources demonstrates this tendency. In this dictionary, Persian words are collected from pioneers of Persian poetry (252-298 of Hijri Qamari date) to the date and linguistic elements are provided from one thousand and one hundred to now (Arshad Sarabi, 2009).

The Features of this dictionary are:

1- Scientific and systematic: consistency and the united method are used in the entire dictionary and it is compiled based on determined standards and methods.

2- The limitation of work was determined and planned and scientific and technical and unrelated words are excluded.

3- In defining words and semantic delicacies, linguistic and sensual instincts are taken into account.
4- Foreign words (Arabic, Turkish, Mongolian, French, English, Russian and German) which are entered into Persian and are common also provided.

5- Various meanings of words and combinations are provided with numbers from the past to the present.

6- Transcription and pronunciation method of entries are provided with Latin alphabet according to transcription and pronunciation table.

7- Grammatical identity of entries’ usage (astronomical, literary, archaeology, banking, etc) is also determined.

8- Approximately all the entries have evidences and examples. Examples are sentences, phrases or combinations that are based on the authors or editors’ linguistic instincts or obtained from listening or readings and evidences are sentences or combinations that are extracted from written sources and their references are provided.

9- Some entries are provided with pictures.

10- It has a detailed bibliography like references, lists of authors, poets and guide tables at the beginning of the first volume (Ershad Sarabi, 2009). (sample,7)

4.12.4 Amiyane (Informal) Persian Dictionary

The writing of Amiyane Persian dictionary is the plan of ten years of professor Abolhassan najafi, author, translator and contemporary linguist is a unique and auspicious occurrence in the history of formal Persian lexicography and informal lexicography. This dictionary reflects spoken and informal language (Khoramshahi, 2011). The dictionary is printed in two volumes, and it includes colloquial and informal words and phrases in Tehran from the beginning of fourteen century of Hijri Shamsi. From the author’s viewpoint, informal language is not limited to words and combinations, but many of the meanings of standard language words and even literary
language that are ignored by lexicographers also should be considered as informal language. Most of words, idioms and meanings that are found in the dictionary cannot be found in general dictionaries (Najafi, 2009). The dictionary includes most of the informal and colloquial words and phrases that are common in the media and writing. Therefore, we can surely say that every researcher needs this dictionary in Persian area.

The features of this dictionary are comprised of:

1- One of the features of this dictionary is its educational value. Dictionaries are divided into several types. One of the most important divisions is the division of active and non-active. Active dictionary are those that have educational goal, that is they are not only words sources but also with scientific method in teaching language, examples and showing sentence patterns usage and showing the place of prepositions and necessary references have educational goals. One type of this dictionary is Longman Language Activator (Khoramshahi, 2011).

2- Another feature of the dictionary is providing cluster-family of words in the sense that lexicographer except in the main entries, has not provided synonyms and combinations using Alphabetical method following each entry. For example in the main entry of "ja" (place) it has provided each word with its synonyms in it exact alphabetical order according to the main or key words. In this regard, the order of recording entries is as follows: ja, ja oftadan, anja ke Arub ney biyandazd (ya khahd andakht), az ja paridan, az ja takannkhordan, az ja darbordan, az ja darraftan, az ja dar kardan, in ja hm dashte bashed ta,in ja hm ja bod, bezan ja, be in jaye kasi residan, be ja arordan be ja nabodan, be jahay barik ya nazod keshidan (and many other entries that begin wit ja until we reach to) khod ra toy del kasi ja kardan, khod ra jay kasi gozashtn (referent), sare ja (referent), yek ja, ja ja (KhoramShahi, 2011).
3- Accuracy in grammatical matters and semantic separation is one of the features of this dictionary. It is unprecedented that a lexicographer provide grammatical meanings such as conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions and different meanings of hala, digar, ham, ke, ama, ba, az, be, ta, agar, tazeeh, aya, baz and baz ham with artistic effort and accuracy. Most of the semantic and usage aspects of such cases are not provided in other Persian dictionaries (Naghzgoye kohan, 2007). He not only examines various meanings but also provides evidences and examples for each one.

The author mentioned in the introduction of his book that ” in compiling the present dictionary the main attempt of author has been to provide evidences for all the words and combinations and these evidences are extracted from the present century books and avoid forging examples, and in some cases that the author has not find written evidence and he has quoted from his listened ones and in rare cases he has made examples by himself because providing examples is one of the most necessary works in lexicography. The detailed and accurate definition will not be more effective if it is not provided with evidences. The other problem is the accurate semantic separation and the value of recognizing this work, the order and systematic method of this work in lexicography is unprecedented in Persian in a way that its accuracy and order is comparable with the best achievements of western lexicography and English and French formal and informal dictionaries in such a manner that syntax points and semantic differences are integrated with the expression of semantics or interpretation of each word simultaneously (Khoramshahi, 2011).

4- The other point is that the description of words or combinations that belong to the standard Persian or formal or literary language, their usage in informal and everyday stages are in meanings that are completely different and unknown for example “ketabi” from the thicker side, “az pahlu” and in the meaning of “be shiveye odaba” or
“malidan” in the meaning of cancelling or “sare reshte” in the meaning of expertise or “etlah ya sar bar nadshtn” in the meaning of "die" and the like are done for the first time and according to Najafi “these are overlooked by lexicographers”. The other matter is that the dictionary for the first time has extracted and described another layer of meaning and usage of general Persian words and it provides our unconscious mind with these materials, the layer that we were not aware of them consciously, but we used them instantly and unconsciously.(sample,4)

5- One of the other aspects of the dictionary is that it on the one hand discovers unknown semantic layers of standard, formal and literary words and combinations or give them new identity but more brighter and graphical and on the other hand, with writing of oral words and phrases that are undetermined, it is one of the referenced that its validity is obtained from our present time works that has given identity to that Persian words or phrases and recognized them in our language.

6- What separates Amiyane dictionary from the other Persian dictionaries is that its spoken nature because this dictionary does not deal with written Persian words and combinations (like Emrooz Persian dictionary) and literary words and combinations (like Moein dictionary) but it tries to discover, extract and describe the meanings and usage of all spoken Persian words in informal, standard and literary levels. On the same token, it can be said that the mentioned dictionary include the most graphical, the core and the most common part of contemporary Persian words (Khoramshahi, 2011).

4.12.5 Emrooz Persian Dictionary

Changes over time cause that dictionaries will become non-updated after a while and the place of new words and idioms becomes empty in the dictionaries. On the other hand, in Persian dictionaries such as Moein dictionary many of its words and
combinations are belonged to the past and are not useful for all users except the one who studies the old texts. These two factors make it necessary the need for a contemporary dictionary and no doubt that Emrooz Persian dictionary is written to satisfy such need (Malekan).

Emrooz Persian dictionary is written by Gholam Hossien Sadri Afshar, Nasrin Hokmi and Nastaran Hokimi. This book has a short introduction that some of the previous dictionaries’ weaknesses are mentioned and after that authors’ method and work domain in compiling the work, guide to use it, the quality of writing, Iranian and foreign references and abbreviations and morphology guide are described.

This dictionary includes fifty thousand common words and combinations. It introduced pronunciation, meaning, origin, grammatical nature with abbreviations. Synonyms and Antonyms are provided for some words. Most of words in this dictionary are recorded and defined for the first time.

This dictionary, according to its authors, include words that are used in contemporary Persian, a language which is used in daily life, during watching TV or movie, listening to the radio, reading books or newspapers in other words, the general words of Persian and is considered as the standard language (Sadriafshar, 1994).

In This dictionary, thousands of words which were used in the past, and the uncommon words used in some cities, areas or professions are excluded except some common words.
Some of the features of the dictionary are as follows:

1- Pronunciations are shown by Latin letters and Webster’s method is used in its phonological letters, because it’s learning and reading is easier. Tehran dialect is used in pronunciations because this dialect gradually will be considered as the standard language in the media. Those words which have more than one pronunciation are separated with points (Sadriafshar, 1994). (sample,2)

2. For each word, its common meaning in contemporary Persian is provided not its meaning in the past or in other nations.

3. For some entries only their equivalents or synonyms are provided in order to refer to those words in their places.

4. Regarding spelling and handwriting, generally textbooks organization’s handwriting is followed and observed.

5. In some cases, example or examples are provided for describing word usage in its specific senses. Examples are randomly chosen from books, magazines and newspapers, which are between < > by Iranic letters.

6- If the synonymous word is more common than the word is referred to it. To avoid repetitions, some words are referred to other words (Sadri Afshar, 1994).

It is necessary to note that most of the previous dictionaries’ problems are corrected, but unfortunately one or two cases are ignored. The first one is concerned with foreign words entered into Persian. Moreover, with a look, it can be found that most of the words are not entered in the dictionary as the entries. For example from the book of schoolmaster, a work by Jalal Ale Ahamad (one of the corpus of the dictionary), some words, combination or idioms are not recorded as entry such as “nako
nal”, “saro dast shekastan, “maye gozashtan” “mo lay drz raftan” etc. Now if we
generalize the problem to other sources and corpus, it will be clear that how many
words, combinations or idioms had not been recorded (Quoted from Al-taghi).
However the publication of the dictionary can be considered as a turning point in the
contemporary lexicography with regard to the contemporary Persian word.