

# A Good Index, Prerequisite for Easy Access of Information Stored in a Dictionary

Michael Zock

Laboratoire d'Informatique Fondamentale (LIF), CNRS, UMR 6166  
Parc scientifique et technologique de Luminy, Case 901 - 163 Avenue de Luminy  
F-13288 Marseille Cedex 9

**Abstract.** A good dictionary contains not only many entries and a lot of information concerning each one of them, but also adequate means to reveal the stored information. Information access depends crucially on the quality of the index(es). I will present here some ideas of how a dictionary could be enhanced to support a speaker/writer to find the word s/he is looking for. To this end I suggest to add to an existing electronic resource an index based on the notion of association.

## 1 Introduction

We spend a large amount of our lifetime searching : ideas, names, documents, and “you just name it”. I will be concerned here with the problem of words, or rather, how to *find* them (word access) in the place where they are stored: the brain, or an external resource.

Obviously, a good dictionary is a well-structured repository with a lot of information concerning words. Yet, what counts is not only the coverage, i.e. number of entries or the quality of the information associated with it, but also access support. Because, what is information good for, if one cannot access it when needed?

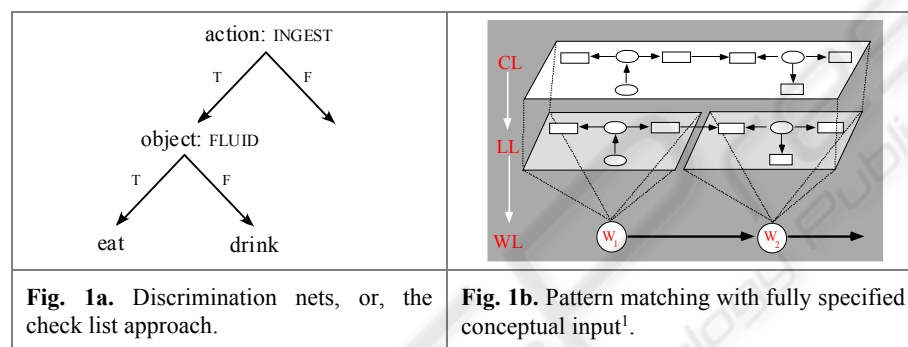
I will present here some ideas of how to enhance an existing electronic dictionary, in order to help the user to find the word he is looking for. Before doing so I will take a look at various solutions offered for different production modes, spontaneous, deliberate and automatic language production, to see their qualities and shortcomings. Let me start with the latter.

## 2 Related Work in the Area of Natural-language Generation

A lot of work has been devoted to lexical issues during the last fifteen years. For excellent surveys see Robin (1990), Stede (1995), Wanner (1996), or Cumming (1986) for some earlier work. Two approaches that have been particularly successful were *discrimination nets* (Goldmann, 1975) and *graph-rewriting*, i.e. *pattern-matching* (Nogier & Zock, 1992, Bateman & Zock, 2003). The former can be seen as

a hierarchically ordered set of tests whose outcome determine the word to be chosen. Since the tests are hierarchically ordered, we have, formally speaking, a tree, whose nodes are the conditions (tests) and the leaves the outcome, i.e. words (see figure 1a).

Yet, words are meant to express meanings, which, taken together form messages. And since the input to the lexicalization component are messages, i.e. meanings words are supposed to express, it is natural to represent both of them, messages and the words' underlying meaning, by the same formalism, for example, semantic networks. According to this view, lexicalization amounts to pattern-matching. Lexical items are selected, provided that their underlying content covers parts of the conceptual input (Figure 1b). This being so, the goal is to find sufficient, mutually compatible lexical items so as to completely cover the input with minimal unwanted additional information.



Unfortunately there are several shortcomings with these two approaches:

- concerning the checklist approach: Apart from the fact that discrimination nets have never been developed at a large scale (i.e. for a subset of a lexicon), it remains to be seen that this technique is well suited for all types of lexical items. Also, the sum of the information given during the tests does not amount to a full specification of the meaning of the word towards which the tests converge, even if the underlying message is taken into account.
- concerning the pattern matching approach: this approach hinges on the assumption that the message is completely planned in all its details prior to verbalization, which, of course, is hardly ever the case. Yet, what shall we do in case of incomplete conceptual input?

Of course, one could claim, as I've done elsewhere (Zock, 1996), that the input, i.e. message to be expressed, is incomplete prior to lexicalization, and the role of the lexicon is not only to express the message, but also to help refining its underspecified parts. The speaker (or writer) starts with a skeleton plan (gist, or rough outline), which he fleshes out with details little by little. For example, instead of saying "X meets Y", he provides further information concerning the referents X and Y, to produce "(X: The young woman) met (Y: her husband)".

<sup>1</sup> CL : conceptual level (message); LL: lemma level (word meaning); WL: word level (expressive form)

It is interesting to note, that in none of these works the issue of word **access** is addressed at all. As a matter of fact, from a strict *computational linguistic point of view*, the whole matter may be a non-issue,<sup>2</sup> and as such it is natural that it would not appear neither in Ward's list of *problems to be addressed* (Ward, 1988), nor in Cahill & Reape's paper (1999) 'Lexicalisation in applied NLG systems'. However, if we address the problem of lexicalisation from a psycholinguistic or *man-machine interaction* point of view (spontaneous discourse or writing on a computer), things are quite different. There is definitely more to lexicalisation than just *choosing* words: one has to *find* them to begin with. No matter how rich a lexical database may be, it is of little use if one cannot access the relevant information in time. *Access* is probably THE major problem that we are confronted with when trying to produce language, be it in real-time (oral form) or consecutive mode (written form). As we shall see, this is precisely a point where computers can be of considerable help. Before doing so, let's take a look at what psychologists have to say.

### 3 Related Work in Psychology and Psycholinguistics

There is an enormous amount of research in psycholinguistics regarding this issue: a collection of papers edited by (Marslen-Wilson, 1989 and Levelt, 1992), several monographs (Stemberger, 1985; Aitchinson, 2003), and an overwhelming amount of empirical studies, to begin with Brown & Mc Neill's landmark work on the tip-of-the tongue phenomenon (1966), but also (Kempen & Huijbers, 1983; Roelofs, 1992) to name just those. While all these papers take up the issue, they do not consider the use of computers for helping people in their task. Yet this is precisely a point I am particularly interested in. Still, the work being done by psychologists and the results obtained are truly impressive and very important.

The dominant psycholinguistic theories of word production are all *activation-based, multilayered network models*. Most of them are implemented, and their focus lies on modelling human performance: speech errors or the time course (latencies) as observed during the access of the mental lexicon. The two best-known models are those of Dell (Dell, 1986) and Levelt (Levelt, Roelofs, & Meyer, 1999), which take opposing views concerning *conceptual input* (conceptual primitives vs. holistic lexicalized concepts) and *activation flow* (one-directional vs. bi-directional).

The Dell model is an interactive-activation-based theory that, starting from a set of features, generates a string of phonemes. Information flow is bi-directional, that is, lower level units can feed back to higher-level components, which may lead to errors. For example, the system might produce *rat* instead of the intended *cat*. Indeed, both words share certain components. Hence, both of them are prone to be activated. At the conceptual level (from the top) they share the feature *animal*, while at the phonological level (from the bottom) they share two phonemes. When the word node for *cat* is active, the following segments are activated: /k/, /æ/, and /t/. The latter two pho-

---

<sup>2</sup> Most programs running serially, there is no such thing as competition. Hence, problems like *interference, confusion* or *forgetting* do not occur. Furthermore, computers having a perfect memory, stored information can generally be accessed. Obviously, the situation is quite different for people.

nemes may feed back, leading to *rat*, which may already be primed and be above baseline due to some information coming from a higher-level component. The model can account for various other kinds of speech errors like *preservations* (e.g., beef needle soup), *anticipations* (e.g., cuff of coffee), etc.

Based on the distribution of word errors, Dell argues that some aspects of speech generation rely on retrieval (phrases, phonological features, etc), while many others (word/phoneme and possibly morpheme combinations) rely on synthesis. Since generation is a productive task, it is prone to swapping or reuse of elements.

WEAVER++ (Word Encoding by Activation and VERification) is also a computational model. It has been designed to explain how speakers plan and control the production of spoken words (Levelt et al., 1999). The model is "hybrid" as it combines a *declarative associative network* and *procedural* rules with *spreading activation* and *activation-based rule triggering*. Words are synthesized by weaving together various kinds of information.

While WEAVER++ is also activation-based, information flow is only one-directional, top-down. Processing is staged in a strictly feed-forward fashion. Starting from lexicalized concepts (concepts for which a language has words) it proceeds sequentially to lemma selection, morphological, phonological and phonetic encoding, to finish off with a motor plan, necessary for articulation. Unlike the previous model, WEAVER++ accounts primarily for reaction time data. Actually, it was developed on the basis of such data collected during the task of picture naming. However, more recently the program managed to parallel a number of findings obtained in psycholinguistics where other techniques (chronometry, eye tracking, electrophysiological and neuro-imaging) have been used.

Apart from work on the time course of lexical access, there is a large body of work on memory and speech errors, providing the foundations for the above described models. Work on memory has shown that *access* depends crucially on the way information is organized (Collins & Quillian, 1969; Smith et al. 1974, Baddeley, 1982). From speech error literature (Fromkin 1973; Cutler, 1982) we learn, that ease of access depends not only on *meaning relations*, — (word bridges, i.e. associations) or the *structure* of the lexicon, i.e. the way words are *organized* in our mind, — but also on **linguistic form** (similarity at the different levels). Researchers collecting speech errors have offered countless examples of phonological errors in which segments (phonemes, syllables or words) are added, deleted, anticipated or exchanged. Reversals like /**am**inal/ instead of /animal/, or /**carpsihord**/ instead of /**harp**sichord/ are not random at all, they are highly systematic and can be explained. Examples like the one below (Fromkin 1973) clearly show that knowing the *meaning* of a word does not guarantee its *access* (table 1).

**Table 1.** Various kinds of speech errors.

|                           |                                |                                 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Anticipations</i>      | take my <b>bike</b>            | <b>bake</b> my bike             |
| <i>Preservations</i>      | <b>pulled</b> a tantrum        | <b>pulled</b> a <b>pan</b> trum |
| <i>Reversals</i>          | <b>Katz</b> and <b>Fodor</b>   | <b>Fats</b> and <b>Kodor</b>    |
| <i>Misderivations</i>     | an <b>intervening</b> mode     | an <b>intervenient</b> mode     |
| <i>Word substitutions</i> | before the place <b>opens</b>  | before the place <b>closes</b>  |
| <i>Blends</i>             | <b>grisly</b> + <b>ghastly</b> | <b>grastly</b>                  |

While all the work discussed so far started from a conceptual input, let's take a look at a tool, designed to contact (enter) the dictionary and to navigate in it by using words. Actually, this kind of information retrieval or access is the one we are most familiar with. Yet, WordNet (WN) the resource we will discuss in the next section is quite different from conventional dictionaries, and as such, it is a great step forward: rather than multiplying the number of dictionaries (one for each use or link: definition, synonyms, antonyms, etc.). WN has been built as a single resource (a database) allowing for multiple accesses by following different links (Miller 1990, Fellbaum, 1998).

#### **4 Related Work in the Area of Electronic Dictionaries: From Word to Word**

Despite the fact that there are many lexical resources available in electronic form (<http://www.ilc.cnr.it/EAGLES96/rep2/node1.html>), I will discuss here only one, WordNet. WN has been built on the basis of psychological mechanisms and organization principles like association, hierarchies, and semantic fields...

The way information is structured is quite different from conventional dictionaries. Lexical entries are organized around linked synonym sets. There are basically two kinds of links: lexical and semantic. The former hold between word forms, whereas the latter connect word meanings. Set inclusion, i.e. hypernymy/ hyponymy (general/specific), antonymy (opposite), entailment, and meronymy/ holonymy (part of) are typical links. Different parts of speech are organized differently. For example, nouns and verbs are organized into hierarchies, whereas adjectives are arranged in clusters, each cluster being organized around antonymous pairs. Since adverbs are often derived from adjectives, they may have antonyms.

While there is no doubt that WN is a major step in the right direction, it is not perfect, and its authors are very well aware of it. Let me mention just some of its shortcomings.<sup>3</sup>

(1) The 'tennis-problem': words normally co-occurring together, hence naturally associated (tennis, umpire, racket, court, backhand), are not linked in WN; (2) the poverty of syntagmatic relations: "WordNet provides a good account of paradigmatic associations, but contains very few syntagmatic links.".... If we knew how to add to each noun a distinctive representation of the contexts in which it is used... WordNet would be much more useful." (Miller, in Fellbaum 1998: 33-34). One can't but agree more. For a proposal going in this direction see Zock & Bilac (2004). (3) Incompleteness of links. For a given synset there is no link between its elements apart from the synonym link. Yet, each element might trigger a different association. Take for example 'rubbish' and 'garbage'. While the former may remind you of a 'rabbit' or (horse)-'radish', the latter may evoke the word 'cabbage'. (4) The problem of meaning. WN's underlying structure is a lexical matrix whose columns and rows are respectively meanings and words. While the idea sounds perfect as it seems to model the two major access or communication modes (meaning/forms, i.e. comprehen-

<sup>3</sup> For other criticisms, see Hanks & Pustejovsky (2005), Sharoff, S. (2005).

sion/expression), it is not fully operational as meanings are equated with synsets only. Hence, WN expects words rather than meanings (or meaning elements) as input. Yet this sounds unreasonable, both for producing language in your mother tongue, and even more so when [speaking](#) a foreign language.

## 5 Discussion

I have presented and commented on three approaches dealing with the problem of the lexicon. One would expect complementarities in the quest of achieving a unified view, yet this is far from obvious. The goals and the methods being simply too different. All of them capture something relevant, but none of them gives us a unified view.

Concerning the work done in the domain of “natural language generation”, next to nothing can be used in the context of electronic dictionaries: the issue of word access simply does not arise. The assumption being that what is stored in the machine can naturally be accessed. In addition, most of this work is based on very small dictionaries, tailored to the engineer’s specific needs, and the issue of macrostructure (organization) is not addressed at all.

As for the work carried out by psychologists, there are several problems: (a) the size of their dictionaries is extremely small (around 100 entries); (b) the specificities of the macrostructure are not spelled out at all; (c) the models being connectionist, the links cannot be interpreted by human beings: all we get are weighted links; (d) the notion of lemma is problematic as in computational linguistics, a lemma is a concrete form for a given meaning (let say “walk”, in order to express some kind of movement), we are nearly empty handed in the case of the mental lexicon. A *lemma* in this framework means nothing more than a semantic-syntactic specification (part of speech, and a set of features), but nothing coming close to a concrete word form, as this is being taken care of by the phonological component, which determines the lexeme.

By looking at this work one gets the impression that people don’t have words at all in their mind. Notions like “words, dictionary, memory” etc. are but metaphors. What we seem to have in our brains is a set of highly abstract information, distributed all over. By propagating energy rather than data or information (as there is no message passing, transformation or accumulation of information, there is only activation spreading, that is, changes of energy levels, call it weights, electronic impulses, or whatever), we propagate signals, activating ultimately certain peripheral organs (larynx, tongue, mouth, lips) in such a way as to produce sounds, that, not knowing better, we call words. Another way of putting things is to say that our mind is a word fabric rather than a storehouse, words being synthesized rather than retrieved.

Yet, we are concerned here with word access. In this respect, WN has the best potential among the presented candidates. Even though it does not have the *power* or *flexibility* of a mental lexicon— for one it lacks too many of the links known to exist in our mind (see all the work done on „word association“), and secondly, the links are not quantified and context-sensitive. — it could be improved in such a way as to get close to our ideal lexicon. I will show in the remainder of this paper a line of research I am pursuing in order to remedy some of the shortcomings mentioned here above. The guidelines of this work are the natural conditions and practical needs of a speaker or writer looking

for a word. Before doing so, let's take a look at the speaker's goals and knowledge at the onset of initiating search.

## 6 Word Access on the Basis of Associations

There are at least two things that people usually know before opening a dictionary<sup>4</sup>: the word's **meaning**, or at least part of it (i.e. part of the *definition*) and its relation to other words or concepts: *x* is *more general* than *y*, *x* is the *equivalent* of *y*, *x* is the *opposite* of *y* (in other words, *x* being the hypernym/synonyme or antonym of *y*), etc. where *x* could be the *source word* (the one coming to one's mind) and *y* the *target word* (the word one is looking for). This is basically conceptual knowledge. Yet, people seem also to know a lot of things concerning the lexical **form** (lexeme): number of *syllables*, beginning/ending of the target word, its *part of speech* (noun, verb, adjective, etc.), and sometimes even the *gender* (Brown et McNeill, 1966; Burke et al. 1991; Vigliocco et al., 1997). While, in principle all this information could be used to constrain the search space, hence, the ideal would be multiple indexes, I will deal here only with the conceptual part (meaning, i.e. partial definition, and the words' relations to other concepts or words).

The yet to-be-built (or to-be-enhanced) resource is based on the age-old notion of association: every idea, *concept* or *word* is connected. In other words, I assume that people have a highly connected conceptual-lexical network in their mind. Finding a word amounts thus to entering the network at any point by giving the word or concept coming to their mind (*source word*) and to follow then the links (associations) leading to the word they are looking for (*target word*). In other words, look-up amounts to navigation in a huge lexical-conceptual space and is not necessarily a one-shot process.

Suppose, you were looking for a word expressing the following ideas: *superior dark coffee made from beans from Arabia*, and that you knew that the target word was neither *espresso* nor *cappuccino*. While none of this would lead you directly to the intended word, *mocha*, the information at hand, i.e. the word's definition or some of its elements, could certainly be used. In addition, people draw on knowledge concerning the role a concept (or word) plays in language and in real world, i.e. the associations it evokes. For example, they may know that they are looking for a noun standing for a beverage that people take under certain circumstances, that the liquid has certain properties, etc. In sum, people have in their mind an encyclopedia: all words, concepts or ideas being highly connected. Hence, any one of them has the potential to evoke the others. The likelihood for this to happen depends, of course, on factors such as *frequency* (associative strength), *distance* (direct vs. indirect access), *prominence* (saliency), etc.

How is this supposed to work for a dictionary user? Suppose you wanted to find the word *mocha* (target word), yet the only token coming to your mind was *Java* (source word). Starting from this input the system would build internally a graph with *Java* at the center and all the words connected to it at the periphery. The graph would

---

<sup>4</sup> Bear in mind that I am dealing here only with the productive side of language: speaking/writing.

be built dynamically depending on the demand. If the list contains the target word, search stops, otherwise navigation continues, taking either one of the proposed candidates as the new starting point or a completely new token.

Of course, one could also have several associations (quasi) simultaneously, e.g., ‘black, delicious, strong, coffee, beverage, cappuccino, espresso, Vienna, Starbucks, espresso...’ in which case the system would build a graph representing the intersection of the associations (at distance 1) of the mentioned words.

Obviously, the greater the number of words entered and associated to a source word, the more complex the graph will be. As graphs tend to become complex, they are not optimal for navigation. There are at least two factors impeding readability: *high connectivity* (great number of links or associations emanating from each word), and *distribution* (conceptually related nodes, that is, nodes activated by the same kind of association, do not necessarily occur next to each other, which is quite confusing for the user). This being so, I suggest to display by category (chunks) all the words linked to the source word. Hence, rather than displaying all the connected words as a huge flat list, I suggest to present the words in hierarchically organized clusters, the links of the graph, becoming the nodes of the tree. This kind of presentation seems clearer and less overwhelming for the user, allowing for categorical search, which is a lot faster than search in a huge bag of words, provided that the user knows which category a word belongs to.

## 7 Discussion and Conclusion

Obviously, in order to allow for this kind of access, the resource has to be built accordingly. Hence several problems have to be solved: (a) words have to be indexed by the associations they evoke, (b) the most frequent/useful associations have to be identified and labeled; (c) the strength of the links must be quantified.<sup>5</sup> This is precisely my goal. Actually, I propose to build an associative network by enriching an existing electronic dictionary (essentially) with an index based on (syntagmatic) associations retrieved from a corpus, representing the average citizen's shared, basic knowledge of the world (encyclopedia). To this end, I suggest to run a collocation extractor on a well-balanced corpus.

As we can see, associations are very general and powerful mechanisms, and if the very notion is age-old,<sup>6</sup> its use to support word access via computer is clearly new. While we have shown elsewhere (Zock & Fournier, 1991) how words can be accessed on the basis of their spoken or written form, we have tried to deal here with word access based on syntagmatic links, a neglected feature in WN. More details concerning the envisaged strategies and the problems likely to arise when building semi-automatically the associative network can be found in (Zock & Bilac, 2004). Even though the work presented here is still at a very early stage and confined to a

---

<sup>5</sup> Ideally, the weight should be (re-)computed on the fly to take into account contextual variations. The same word (Java) may evoke quite different associations depending on the context (coffee vs. programming).

<sup>6</sup> It amounts at least to Aristotle, 350 before JC.



very specific task, it has the potential to go well beyond word access: information access by and large, brainstorming and subliminal communication, to name just these.

A dictionary is a vital component for any system processing language, be it natural or artificial. There is hardly any task that we can do without it. Yet, what for an outsider seems to be one and the same object, turns out to be something very different viewed by an insider. Indeed, the content, structure (organization) and navigational properties of the resource, i.e. dictionary, vary considerably with the task (analysis vs. synthesis), time constraints (spontaneous, speech production; written text production), the nature of the information processor (man vs. machine) and the material support of the data (brain, paper, computer). The goals of this paper were twofold: (a) to show how different the resource (and its usage) can be depending on the way language is produced: automatic generation by computer, spontaneous discourse production (the speaker relying on his mental lexicon), or planned text-production, i.e. writing: an author making use of an existing electronic resource; (b) to illustrate how an existing electronic dictionary could be enhanced by adding an association-based index to assist the language producer (writer).

I have looked at the dictionary only from the language producer's point of view for two reasons: space constraints and practical concern. People searching for information regarding meanings or spelling are generally quite well served with alphabetically organized dictionaries, in particular if the resource is electronic, as it alleviates the problem of misspelling. The way a dictionary is built depends, of course, crucially on its ultimate usage; yet, this latter has to be anticipated. It seems to me that we have missed a chance by not taking care to look over the dictionary users' shoulders for insights. Doing so would certainly be beneficial not only for the builders of the resource, but also for psychologists, as it shows them in slow motion what people are doing and looking for. What can we ask for more?

## References

1. Aitchinson, J.; (2003): *Words in the Mind: an Introduction to the Mental Lexicon*. Oxford, Blackwell.
2. Baddeley, A. (1982) *Your memory: A user's guide*. Penguin
3. Bateman, J. ; Zock ; M. (2003) *Natural Language Generation*. In: R. Mitkov (Ed.) *Handbook of Computational Linguistics*, Oxford University Press. 284-304
4. Brown R.; McNeill, D. (1996). The tip of the tongue phenomenon. In: *Journal of Verbal Learning and Verbal Behaviour*, 5:325-337.
5. Burke, D.M.; MacKay, D.G.; Worthley, J. S.; Wade, E. (1991): «On the Tip of the Tongue: What Causes Word Finding Failures in Young and Older Adults?». In: *Journal of Memory and Language* 30, 542-579.
6. Cahill, L.; Reape, M. (1999). Lexicalisation in applied NLG systems. Brighton, ITRI: 9.
7. Collins, A.; Quillian, L. (1969) Retrieval time from semantic memory. *Journal of Verbal Learning and Verbal Behavior*, 8, 240-247
8. Cumming, S. (1986). *The Lexicon in Text Generation*, ISI: 86-168.
9. Cutler, A. (Ed.) (1982). *Slips of the Tongue and Language Production*. Amsterdam: Mouton
10. Dell, G.S. (1986): A spreading-activation theory of retrieval in sentence production. *Psychological Review*, 93, 283-321.

11. Fellbaum, C. (1998). WordNet: An Electronic Lexical Database and some of its Applications. MIT Press.
12. Fromkin, V. (ed.) (1973): Speech errors as linguistic evidence. The Hague: Mouton Publishers.
13. Goldman N. (1975). Conceptual Generation, in Schank, R. (ed.): Conceptual Information Processing, North Holland.
14. Hanks, P.; J. Pustejovsky. (2005). 'A Pattern Dictionary for Natural Language Processing' in *Revue française de linguistique appliquée* 10 (2)
15. Kempen, G.; Huijbers, P. (1983): The lexicalization process in sentence production and naming: Indirect election of words. *Cognition*, 14, 185–209.
16. Levelt, W. (1992). Accessing Words in Speech Production: Stages, Processes and Representations. *Cognition* 42: 1-22.
17. Levelt, W.J.M., Roelofs, A., Meyer, A.S. (1999): A theory of lexical access in speech production. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 22, 1-75.
18. Marslen-Taylor, W. (Ed.) (1979) *Lexical Representation and Process*, Bradford book, MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass.
19. Mel'čuk I., Clas A., Polguère A. (1995) : Introduction à la lexicologie explicative et combinatoire. Louvain, Duculot.
20. Miller, G.A. (ed.) (1990): WordNet: An On-Line Lexical Database. *International Journal of Lexicography*, 3(4), 235-244.
21. Nogier, J.F.; Zock, M. (1992). Lexical choice by pattern matching. In *Knowledge Based Systems*, 5 (3), pp. 200 - 212
22. Quillian, R. (1968). Semantic memory. In M. Minsky (ed.) *Semantic Information Processing*, The MIT Press. Cambridge, MA., 216–270.
23. Robin, J. (1990). A Survey of Lexical Choice in Natural Language Generation, Technical Report CUCS 040-90, Dept. of Computer Science, University of Columbia
24. Roelofs, A. (1992). "A spreading-activation theory of lemma retrieval in speaking." Levelt, W. (ed.) Special issue on the lexicon, *Cognition*, 42: 107-142.
25. Sharoff, S. (2005). The communicative potential of verbs of 'away-from' motion in English and Russian. *Functions of Language*, 12:2, 203-238.
26. Smith, E., Shoben, E. & Rips, L. (1974) Structure and process in semantic memory: a featural model for semantic decisions. *Psychological Review*, 81, 214-241
27. Stede, M. (1995). Lexicalization in Natural Language Generation: a survey. *Artificial Intelligence Review* 8, pp. 309-336
28. Stemberger, N. (1985) *The Lexicon in a Model of Speech Production*. Garland, New York.
29. Vigliocco, G.; Antonini, T.; Garrett, M. F. (1997): Grammatical gender is on the tip of Italian tongues. *Psychological Science*, 8, 314-317.
30. Wanner, L. (1996). Lexical Choice in Text Generation and Machine Translation. Special Issue on Lexical Choice. *Machine Translation*. L. W. (ed.). Dordrecht, Kluwer Academic Publishers. 11: 3-35.
31. Ward, N. (1988). Issues in Word Choice. COLING-88, Budapest.
32. Zock, M. (1996): The Power of Words in Message Planning, COLING, Copenhagen, 990-5, <http://acl.ldc.upenn.edu/C/C96/C96-2167.pdf>
33. Zock, M.; Fournier, J.P. (2001). How can computers help the writer/speaker experiencing the tip-of-the-tongue problem ? In: Proc. of RANLP, 300-302.
34. Zock, M; Bilac, S. (2004). Word lookup on the basis of associations: from an idea to a roadmap. Proc. of Coling workshop: Enhancing and using dictionaries, Geneva, 29-35.