

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	xi
1 Introduction: the lexicon – words and more	1
1.1 Some preliminary definitions	1
1.2 Words and language	1
1.3 What's in a word?	5
1.4 The domain of the lexicon	10
1.5 Summary	12
Sources and suggestions for further reading	13
Focusing questions/topics for discussion	14
2 Lexis and syntax	17
2.1 Colligation	17
2.2 The computational perspective	18
2.3 The 'London School' perspective	20
2.4 The Valency Grammar perspective	21
2.5 The Lexical–Functional perspective	22
2.6 The Chomskyan perspective	23
2.7 Summary	28
Sources and suggestion for further reading	29
Focusing questions/topics for discussion	30
3 Lexis and morphology	33
3.1 The inner life of words	33
3.2 Morphemes and allomorphs	34
3.3 'Lexical' morphology and inflectional morphology	35
3.4 Inflectional morphemes and the lexicon	38
3.5 Summary	42
Sources and suggestions for further reading	42
Focusing questions/topics for discussion	44
4 Lexical partnerships	47
4.1 Collocation: the togetherness factor	47
4.2 Collocational range	48

4.3	Fixed expressions and compounds	49
4.4	Collocations and the dictionary	51
4.5	Corpora and collocations	52
4.6	Creativity and prefabrication in language use	55
4.7	Collocations, the lexicon and lexical units	56
4.8	Summary	58
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	58
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	61
5	Lexis and meaning	63
5.1	Words making the difference	63
5.2	Meaning seen as reference or denotation	64
5.3	Structuralist perspectives on meaning	66
5.4	Componential analysis	75
5.5	Cognitive approaches to meaning	77
5.6	Summary	80
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	80
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	83
6	Lexis, phonology and orthography	85
6.1	Lexis and 'levels of articulation'	85
6.2	Phonemes, stresses and tones	85
6.3	Lexical phonology as a reflection of lexical grammar and lexical meaning	88
6.4	Association between particular sounds and particular (categories of) lexical items	89
6.5	Lexis and orthography	91
6.6	Orthography as a reflection of lexical grammar and lexical meaning	97
6.7	Association between particular written signs and particular (categories of) lexical items	99
6.8	Summary	100
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	100
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	102
7	Lexis and language variation	105
7.1	Variety is the spice of language	105
7.2	Language variation: sociolinguistic perspectives	106
7.3	Lexical aspects of geographical variation	109
7.4	Lexical aspects of social variation	111
7.5	Lexical aspects of ethnic variation	114
7.6	Lexical aspects of gender-related variation	116
7.7	Lexical aspects of context-related variation	119
7.8	Lexical variation, culture and thought	123
7.9	Summary	127
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	127
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	131

8	Lexical change	133
8.1	Language in motion	133
8.2	The comparative method and internal reconstruction	134
8.3	Changes in lexical form	138
8.4	Changes in lexical meaning	143
8.5	Changes in lexical distribution	146
8.6	Lexical changes associated with language contact	148
8.7	The case of proper names	150
8.8	Lexical engineering	152
8.9	Summary	156
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	156
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	158
9	Acquiring and processing lexis	161
9.1	The 'mental lexicon'	161
9.2	Meeting the lexical challenge	162
9.3	Before the first words	163
9.4	First words and beyond	167
9.5	Models of lexical processing	170
9.6	L2 dimensions	180
9.7	Summary	184
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	184
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	190
10	Charting and imparting the lexicon	193
10.1	Dictionaries and didactics	193
10.2	Lexicography: a potted history	194
10.3	The lexicon – lexicographer's bane!	201
10.4	Approaches to lexis in the language classroom	211
10.5	Lexical learning and other aspects of language learning	226
10.6	Summary	229
	Sources and suggestions for further reading	229
	Focusing questions/topics for discussion	234
	<i>Conclusion</i>	235
	<i>Index</i>	239