Doctoral thesis

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Author: Sergio CORDERO MONGE.
Title: *Unidades pluriverbales en los diccionarios del español de Costa Rica: análisis y propuesta de descripción* [Pluriverbal lexical units in the Costa Rican Spanish dictionaries: analysis and proposal description].
Director and tutor: Emilia ANGLADA ARBOIX.
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University Centre: University of Barcelona. Department of Hispanic Philology.
Field of study: Linguistic. Phraseology.

Abstract:

Sergio Cordero Monge's study deals with some issues related to the lexicographic treatment that the Spanish verbal locutions of Costa Rica have received in three dictionaries: the *Diccionario de costarriqueñismos* by Arturo Agüero Chaves (1996, the first and only edition), the *Nuevo diccionario de costarriqueñismos* by Miguel Ángel Quesada Pacheco (1991= 2007, 4th ed. corrected and updated) and the *Diccionario de americanismos* by the Association of Academies of the Spanish Language (2010). The first two dictionaries, written by an individual author, contain dialectal forms, of the Costa Rican Spanish variety; the last one includes the different varieties of American Spanish; it is a corporate work in which collaboration all the Academies of the American Spanish language were involved. Cordero Monge conducts a critical examination, a thorough revision of the criteria applied in the different lexicographic repertoires, from two assumptions: 1. of all pluriverbal lexical units, the verbal locutions are the most numerous; 2. the lexicographic treatment that they receive varies from one dictionary to another causing great discrepancies.

Cordero Monge investigates thoroughly the criteria applied in the lexicographic repertoires mentioned. The incongruities that these three works present on the treatment of pluriverbal units in terms of their selection, inclusion and definition, denotes the lack of uniformity with which phraseology is treated in the dictionaries, that can also be explained from the lexicographic theory and methodology typical of the time of each dictionary and from the different technical resources with which every one of these could count. Cordero Monge examines theoretical questions such as phraseology as a scientific discipline, its object of study, the fundamental characteristics of locutions, their classifications and subclassification, the relationship between phraseology and lexicography, the use of the terms "lemma" and "sublemma" and the concept of "costarriqueísmo léxico". In the part concerning the empirical study, Cordero Monge, considering the treatment of verbal locution from the superstructure, macrostructure and microstructure of the dictionaries also examines how the dictionaries give access to these units (the verbal locutions lemmatization), the criteria to place them (sublemmatization), the phraseological variation and the syntagmatic delimitation of these units, the grammatical marking, as well as the treatment of verbal locutions definitions with reference to their typology, the use of cross-references, synonymous series, definitor verbs and contours.

Structure:

Introduction
Ch. 1. Phraseology and the concept of "phraseological units".
Ch. 2. The relationship between phraseology and lexicography: the phraseography.
Ch. 3. On the terms lemma, lemmatization, sublemma and sublemmatization.
Ch. 4. Costa Rican lexicon.
Ch. 5. Presentation of the dictionaries.
Ch. 6. Methodology.
Ch. 7. Lexicographic treatment of verbal locutions.
Ch. 8. Conclusion.
Bibliography.
Source list of the cited examples of use.
Index of cited locutions and pluriverbal lemmas.
Annexes.

Main conclusions:

- Agüero's *Diccionario* is the repertory that presents more problems of internal coherence for having a rather rigorous lemmatization system that does not allow to determine which is the ordering word and on which part of the dictionary the locutions are located. It also does not present coherence with respect to the cross-reference/definition system when the locution appears as subentry in more than one article.
- Quesada's *Nuevo Diccionario* presents more uniformity regarding the element that gives entrance to the locution: the verbal locutions, usually included in their complete form as sublemma, appear in the entrance of the first noun or adjective included in the locution; at the same time it is more irregular with respect to the lexicographic article organization (functional, alphabetical and categorical order).
- The ASALE *Diccionario* applies a more rigorous and elaborated methodology which favours more control of the information provided, especially with regard to the verbal locution sublemmatization which made it possible to introduce the verbal locution by the phraseological unit verb, through a tilde used to avoid repeating the lemma.
- The three dictionaries take into consideration the variation (order of the components, lexical selection and phonetic realization).
- As for the variation and synonym relation that exists among the pluriverbal units, the three dictionaries present some deficiencies. In fact, they don't always show systematically the relations of the meaning that exist among the verbal locutions.
- The comparison of the three dictionaries makes it possible to observe some inconsistencies concerning the formal and functional determination of locutions. In fact, if in specific cases some structures are considered as verbal locutions, in other cases they are considered as adjective or adverbial locutions.
- The three dictionaries present some differences with regard to the argument expressions, that are not fixed lexically in the locution: the arguments don't have a lexical fixed realization in the phraseological unit lemmatization, or are not shown in the locution structure but they are expressed in the definition as contour which makes it impossible to distinguish the arguments from the properly so called definition.

Contributions:

Cordero Monge's study underlines, in general, the lack of uniformity with which phraseology is treated in the dictionaries.

The revision of the three lexicographic repertoires gives account of the complexity to describe and differentiate the verbal locutions for being, from a structural point of view, a very heterogeneous class and for the differences regarding inclusion criteria used and observed in the mentioned dictionaries.

Comparative analysis allows not only to improve the new editions of the dictionaries mentioned, but also to enable other works to take into account the aspects discussed in this study and, in particular, the lack of lexicographic examples.

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Director and tutor: Cristina TEJEDOR MARTÍNEZ.
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University Centre: University of Alcalá. Department of Modern Philology.
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Abstract:

Ana-María Marinescu analyses the English paremias that include opposite words, in order to establish from a contrastive point of view if these pairs of words included in the Spanish and Romanian paremiological correspondences belong to the same group of antonyms as that of the English paremias. For this reason, the scholar classifies the words into six groups: antonyms, complementaries, directional opposites, converses, reversives and heteronyms. The thesis is structured in three parts: the first one deals with the definition and typology of English antonyms; in the second one Marinescu seeks to delimit the concept of *proverb* by providing some definitions that come from English, Spanish and Romanian studies. The lack of a strict definition among these categories, takes the scholar to study both proverbs and sayings; in the third part, based on the classification established in the first one, Marinescu analyses the opposite words included in English proverbs and sayings with their Spanish and Romanian correspondences. Regarding the working methodology, Marinescu, from a corpus of 3.200 English proverbs and sayings, selects 471 paremias which contain the groups of words mentioned, understanding by group an English paremia that includes at least a pair of opposite words with its Spanish and Romanian correspondences.

Structure:

List of symbols and abbreviations
Introduction
Part One: Antonyms
- Chapter 1. Antonyms and antonymy. Opposites and oppositeness
- Chapter 2. Oppositeness and the science of logic
- Chapter 3. The typology of opposites
- Chapter 4. Oppositeness and other semantic relations between words
- Chapter 5. Antonyms at work

Part Two: Proverbs
- Chapter 1. Defining proverbs
- Chapter 2. A brief view on the history of proverbs
- Chapter 3. The typology of proverbs
- Chapter 4. Proverbs' importance. Range of application
- Chapter 5. Proverbs and the semantic relations of synonymy and antonymy

Part Three: English proverbs including opposites with their Spanish and Romanian equivalents
Chapter 1. Introductions
Chapter 2. Contrastive analysis
Chapter 3. Contrastive analysis results
Chapter 4. Contrastive analysis conclusions
Final remarks
Bibliography
Appendix: Metarrefranero
Vever-Ending Love Story…În loc de încheiere...

Main conclusions:

- The present study highlights the complexity of establishing the kind of semantic relationship between opposite words, from their meaning and their different degree of antonymy: "pure" (*day/night* imply the concepts of "maximum light" and "mininum light") or "impure" (*mountains/molehills* imply the concepts of "greatness" and "littleness"). In this second case, the oppositeness appears only in the linguistic context in which the pair of words are inserted and does not depend on their proper sense, but on their figurative one.
- In the majority of proverbs and sayings (68,15 %) the pair of opposites are governed, though not always in the three languages chosen for this study, by an equal or almost equal relation (*evil/good; malas/buenas; rele/bune*) that, in some cases, appears not only on the logical-semantic level, but also on the morphological (nouns adjectives, pronouns, among the most representative categories) and grammatical one. The equal relation between opposite words found in English proverbs and sayings, a Germanic language, and in Spanish and Romanian languages, two Romance languages, allows to demonstrate, from the high percentage of cases registered by the scholar, the family relationship that can exist by contrasting the three languages.
- The search for correspondences between the English proverbs, on the one hand, and the Spanish and Romanian proverbs, on the other hand, makes it possible to verify the presence of numerous variants in the three languages.

Contributions:

The main idea that has made it possible to carry out this work, the relation between the paremias and the antonyms, allows to find new methods for the learning of vocabulary, which makes the paremias a useful tool for the teacher in view of the acquisition of the lexicon. It is also a useful and interesting instrument for the students to familiarize with the culture and the folklore of the language they want to learn, as these units are brief and easy to memorize thanks to the rhyme and the musicality that are proper to them. In teaching-learning vocabulary of a foreign language, being aware that the semantic relationships established among the words plays an important role with which to carry out the communication functions; it is easier to learn, determine and remember the meaning of a word in a given context if it is associated with its antonym. In this regard, paremias represent a rich potential that must be exploited.

From a lexicographical perspective, this study becomes a starting point for the realization of a new vocabulary of paremias based on the different types of semantic relations that are established among words (antonymy, synonymy, polysemy, etc.).

From the frequency with which certain pairs of opposite words appear, the scholar considers that new pairs of opposites could be established as a norm in language. For this purpose, it would have to be verified through a rigorous research work, if the speakers are conscious that these words function as opposites.