
The Comparison of S Entry between the Fifth Edition of Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD5) and the Eighth Edition of Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD8)

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Abstract

The vocabularies of dictionaries have changed in each edition. Similarly, changes have also happened to OALD which is known as one of the most popular monolingual learner's dictionaries. This study is intended to find out the entries from OALD5 that disappear in OALD8 and the entries from OALD8 that come into OALD8. It also aims to investigate why the entries from OALD5 are excluded in OALD8 and why the entries from OALD8 are included in OALD8. The data of this study are taken from OALD5 and OALD8 focusing on S entry and analyzed by using qualitative approach. The result of this study shows that there are 14 entries found from S entry of OALD5 and 559 entries found from S entry of OALD8. It is found that the entries enter the language through nine of word formation processes such as derivation, compound, blend, acronym, abbreviation, clipping, eponym, back-formation, and loanword in which loanword is the most dominant process. Additionally, the main exclusion and inclusion of entries in both editions are the frequency of entries in corpora of English.

Keywords: entries, OALD5, OALD8, monolingual dictionary, vocabulary.

Introduction

English dictionaries are important tools for English language learners. One of the most popular monolingual learner's dictionaries is Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD). Generally, dictionaries have been revised through times and so has the OALD. It has been revised from the first edition to the current edition that is eighth edition. In every edition, OALD always has new features. The noticeable difference can be seen in the fifth edition. This is because the OALD5 is the first time to use British National Corpus (BNC).

Dictionary always develops and so does the vocabulary inside it. The vocabularies of English have changed in the publication of the new edition of OALD. There are many words that are lost and many words that come in. This is because the English words are never static and available in a great number. When the writer did a pre-observation, she found that there were many words found related to technology such as Skype, Smartphone, Subnotebook, SD card, Siemens, etc. Besides, the number of the S entry pages is the largest in both OALDs. This research of the comparison between OALD5 and OALD8 is aimed to find out what S entries can be found and cannot be found in both editions of the OALD. This research is also intended to find out why the entries are obsolete in OALD8 and why the entries are included in OALD8. It is necessary to conduct this study since dictionaries users especially lecturers and the students of English Department will be able to know the significance of the new edition of dictionary and will be able to use it in academic life.

English Word Formation

The entries that consist of content words have been added to vocabulary of a language by English affixation and other ways by forming words called word formation. According to Fromkin, Rodman,

& Hyams (2009), word formation is a process of forming words that are added to the vocabulary. They also noted that there are several word formation processes to create new words:

Derivation

It is a process in which a word with a meaning and or category distinct from that of its base through the addition of an affix: prefix and suffix. For example, prefix *uni-* forms the word *unilateral* and suffix *-en* forms the word *shorten*.

Inflection

It is a process in which a word is marked by affixation but does not change either grammatical category or type of meaning found in the word to which it applies. For example, in the case of verbs, inflection marks a distinction between past and nonpast subclasses by adding the affix *-ed* to indicate the past tense, for example the word '*work*' becomes the tense inflection '*worked*'.

Compound

It is a word formation process in which the words are derived by combining two or more words together to form a new word. For example, when the combined words are from the same category, the compound will be in this category: noun+noun, for example *girl+friend* → *girlfriend*. When the combined words are derived from different grammatical category, the class of the second word will be the grammatical category of the compound: noun+adjective=adjective, for example *head+strong* → *headstrong*.

Conversion

It is a word formation process in which it is similar to derivation due to the change of the category and meaning that is produced although it is without additional affix or zero affix. For example, the word *finger* (verb) is derived from the word *finger* (noun).

Acronym

It is a process of word formation that takes the initial letters of a phrase and creates a word then reading them as a word. For example, *UNICEF* stands for United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund.

Abbreviation

It is a word formation process that is formed by taking initial letters of multiword sequences and spelling out the letters.

Back-formation

It is a creative reduction due to incorrect morphological analysis. Mostly the back-formations in English have been found that words end with *-or* or *-er* that refer to the notion of an agent. For example, the word *edit* was formed from the word *editor*.

Clipping

It is a process of forming word in which a multisyllabic word is reduced in size, usually to one or two syllables. For example, the word *fridge* is from *refrigerator*.

Blend

It is a process of forming word from parts of two already existing lexical items that are combined is deleted. For example, the word *motel* is derived from *motor* and *hotel*.

Eponym

It is a word derived from proper names or things. For example, *Sandwich* is derived from the name for the fourth Earl of Sandwich who put food between two slices of bread.

Loanword

It is a process in which a word is formed by borrowing from another language and being added to the vocabulary of a language. For example, the word *karaoke* is borrowed from Japanese.

Lemma selection

Dictionaries cannot include everything. Therefore, it needs decisions what to include in a dictionary. The first step that arrives to select the inclusion in the dictionary is a subset of the basic forms which is called lemma selection. According to Atkins and Rundell (2008), lemma is a headword which has some components such as pronunciation, variant form, frequency marker, inflected form, and etymology in which frequency determines how the words behave. Frequency is a component which depends on access to large corpus. It reflects the frequency of the headword in the corpus. According to Atkins&Rundell (2008), the factors which make the inclusion and the exclusion of headwords in dictionary are the item's corpus frequency, its profile or its importance, and its additional meaning or connotations.

Related studies

There are some researchers who conducted research similar to this study. Prameswari (2006) investigated the old and the new words of *A-B* entries of the Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (OLPD) 1983 edition and OLPD 2003 edition. And, Rundell (2006) compared five monolingual learner's dictionaries such as Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (LDOCE), Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD), Collins COBUILD Advanced Learner's English Dictionary (COBUILD), Cambridge International Dictionary of English (CIDE), and Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners (MED).

Method

The data of this study were taken from OALD5 and OALD8 focusing on the *S* entry. The OALD5 and OALD8 were compared manually to get the entries from OALD5 that are excluded in OALD8 and the entries from OALD8 that are included in OALD8. The data were grouped based on their word classes. They were also counted on the number of new entries that are found based on the word class in order to know what word class that is more open. To get the data of frequency of entries in corpora, accessing the Sketch Engine was conducted. By using qualitative approach, the data were analyzed by making interpretation. In this case, the writer analyzed the data by connecting them to frequency of entries and external factor of exclusion and inclusion of entries.

Findings

There are 2580 entries in the *S* entry of the fifth edition of Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD5). However, there are 14 entries in the *S* entry found from OALD5 that are excluded in the OALD8; 7 entries are nouns, 4 entries are adjectives, 1 entry is verb, and 2 entries are abbreviations.

There are 3125 entries in the *S* entry of the eighth edition of Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (OALD8). However, there are 559 entries in the *S* entry found from OALD8 that are included in the OALD8; 422 entries are nouns, 21 entries are verbs, 98 entries are adjectives, 3 entries are adverbs, and 15 entries are abbreviations.

Discussions

The Analysis of Entries Exclusion in the OALD8

Although the loss of entries in the latest dictionary is not as many as the entries arrival, it also draws attention why the entries are excluded in OALD8. Based on the lemma selection theory, loss of entries is caused by the low frequency of word. Additionally, it has been found that the importance of entries for learners also plays a role in the disappearance or exclusion of the entries.

Frequency of the entries determines how the words behave. There are entries that are obsolete due to low frequency of entries in corpora of English such as *saracen*, *self-advertisement*, *self-locking*, *speechify*, and *stertorous*. The rest of the entries that still have high frequency is obsolete because of

the importance of entries for learners such as technological change, preferable use, and the familiarity of entries. The entries that disappear due to technological change are *streptomycin*, *synchromesh*, *sta*, and *striated*. The entries that do not exist due to preferable use are *Scotsman* and *Scotswoman*. The entries that are dropped out of use due to the familiarity of entries are *SALT*, *sandfly*, and *semi-conscious*.

The entries that have low frequency of word occur as people use the entries less frequently than before. Technological change is one of the factors that influence the disappearance of entries. The entry *sta* is one of the examples. The entry *sta* was abbreviated for “station especially on a map”. This entry was used when the map was still in a printed map so that this entry was abbreviated to be *sta* because of the limited paper. However, technology has developed more and more highly. As the result, digital map has been invented nowadays. Therefore, the entry *station* is not abbreviated anymore as the people can zoom it in and out when they use digital map. The entry represents why the entries are excluded in OALD8.

The Analysis of Entries Inclusion in the OALD8

The entries are formed through some processes called English word formation and will be included in dictionary by deciding the specific factors. The entries have entered English language through several types of English word formation and the inclusion factors as the lemma in the dictionary. Based on the English word formation theory, these entries emerge to enrich English vocabulary through nine English word formation processes: derivation, compound, blend, acronym, abbreviation, clipping, eponym, back-formation, and loanword.

Based on the result of the entries that has been found in OALD8, the entries in S entry of OALD8 are mostly formed through loanword process. The entry *sawm* is one of the examples of loanword process. The entry *sawm* is borrowed from Arabic word صَوْم. It is Muslim practice of not eating or drinking in the day during the ninth month of the Muslim year called Ramadan.

The word formation process is not enough to explain why the entries found are included in OALD8. The word formation process only explains why the entries emerge to enrich the vocabulary of language. Therefore, it is necessary to know what factors that make the entries found are included in OALD8. Based on the lemma selection theory, the entries included in OALD8 are caused by some factors such as high frequency of entry, technological change, economic condition, cultural factor, law factor, political factor, medical factor, and English worldwide. The number of the entries that is caused by high frequency of entry is 320 entries. The number of the entries that is caused by technological change is 60 entries. The number of the entries that is caused by economic condition is 20 entries. The number of the entries that is caused by cultural factor is 107 entries. The rest of the entries are caused by law, political, medical, and English worldwide factors in which it has been found 6 entries due to law factor, 17 entries due to political factor, 27 entries due to medical factor, and 1 entry due to English worldwide. Based on the result of the entries inclusion, the entries found in the S entry of OALD8 are mostly included due to high frequency of entry in corpora of English.

The entries that have high frequency of entries occur as many people use the words frequently. People often use the entries as a result of technology, for instance. Based on the data of the entries from OALD that are found, there are several entries that can be categorized into technology group, the words *skype* and *skypecast*, for instance. There are many social network activities that are done by people on the internet nowadays such as facebook, twitter, path, twoo, line, kakao talk, etc. *Skype* and *skypecast* are part of social network activities that are well known and used by many people nowadays. This condition shows that the entries *skype* and *skypecast* exist as a result of technological advancement. The more people use skype and skypecast, the more people use the entries *skype* and *skypecast* too. Those two entries are the representations why the entries are included in OALD8.

Conclusion

The entries that are found in the S entry of OALD8 show that noun is more open to enter the language than the other word classes. Based on the exclusion of entries analysis, it is found that the entries excluded in OALD8 are mostly because of low frequency of entry in the corpora of English.

The rest of the entries disappear in the OALD8 because of technological change, preferable use, and entry's familiarity. Based on the inclusion of entries analysis, it is found that the entries in English vocabulary are mostly formed by borrowing languages from other countries called *loanword*. The rest of the entries are formed through derivation, inflection, compound, blend, acronym, abbreviation, clipping, back-formation, and eponym. Additionally, it is also found that entries included in OALD8 are mostly because of high frequency of entry in corpora of English. The rest of the entries in OALD8 are included due to technological change, economic factor, cultural factor, law factor, political factor, medical factor, and English worldwide. It is suggested that the researchers of further studies keep abreast with the recent development of English vocabularies by making deeper analysis of the comparison between entries of different monolingual learner's dictionaries.

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