PHRASALEX

Phraseological Approaches to Learner's Lexicography

19-20 September 2019
Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia

Inspired by our current project for an electronic learners' dictionary of Italian, the workshop aims to bring together experts in the field of lexicography, in particular learners' lexicography, computational lexicography, but also phraseology and foreign language teaching, in order to reflect in an international and interdisciplinary context on topics such as linguistic theories on the interaction between lexicon and grammar and their implications for lexicography, and the theoretical and methodological principles of sense disambiguation and ordering in a learners' dictionary.

Our approach is informed by John Sinclair's thesis about patterns of usage as the true lexical units of a language, endowed with a phraseological nature. The concept of "linguistic restriction" (in the form of lexical, cognitive and conceptual restrictions) allows us to distinguish and order the different meanings of a word. We also plan to organize the meanings of each lemma not on the basis of frequency of use but on the basis of the idea of prototypical meaning, in the hypothesis that this may facilitate access to the dictionary. We also use comparisons between Italian and other languages to validate and consolidate our corpus-based method.