# Lesson Three: ORIGIN OF ENGLISH WORDS – etymology, lexical borrowing, adding to the lexicon

- Brief History of English
- Mechanisms for creating new vocabulary Coining Borrowing
- Word Meaning (Semantics)
   Reference
   Sense Relations
   Connotation
   Collocation
- Describing Words: "Lexical Facts"

# History of the Development of English

**Old English** (449-1066)

449 Saxons invade Britain

6th c Religious literature

8th c Beowulf

1066 Norman Conquest

**Middle English (1066-1500)** 

1387 Canterbury Tales

1476 Caxton's printing press

1500 Great Vowel Shift

**Modern English (1450- OR 1500-)** 

1564 Birth of Shakespeare

Early (1450-1700); Late/Later (1700-1950); International (1950-)

Fromkin, Victoria & Robert Rodman. 1998. *An Introduction to Language*, 6th edition. Forth Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, p. 450. McArthur, Tom. editor. 1992. *The Oxford Companion to the English Language*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

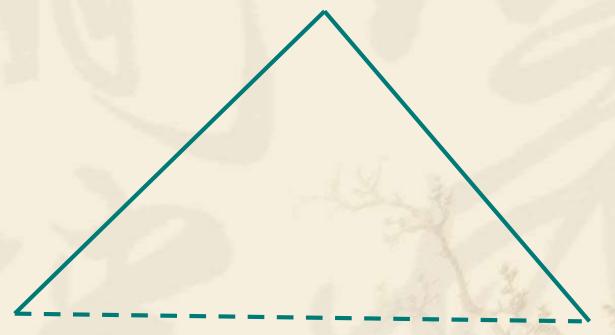
# **Word Coinage**

- 1. Compounds
- 2. Acronyms
- 3. Back-Formations
- 4. Clipping (Abbreviations)
- 5. Eponyms
- 6. Blends
- 7. Derivations
- 8. Conversions

Fromkin, Victoria & Robert Rodman. 1998. *An Introduction to Language*, 6th edition. Forth Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, Chapter 3: Morphology: The Words of Language. Jackson, Howard. 2002. *Lexicography: An Introduction*. London: Routledge, Chapter 2: Facts about Words.

# Word Meaning à la C.K. Ogden & I.A. Richards

THOUGHT OR REFERENCE



SYMBOL

REFERENT

Landau, Sidney I. 2001. *Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography*, second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p. 155. Adapted from C.K. Ogden & I.A. Richards' *The Meaning of Meaning*, 1923, p. 11.

# **Sense Relations 1**

## **Synonymy**

```
begin / commence
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leave / depart

tell / inform

kingly / royal / regal

sofa / couch

## **Antonymy**

big / small (Adj)

begin / end (V)

top / bottom (N)

Jackson, Howard. 2002. Lexicography: An Introduction. London: Routledge, pp. 16-18.

# **Sense Relations 2**

## **Hyponymy**

silverware [cutlery]: knife, fork, spoon

furniture: sofa, chair, table

### Meronymy

wheel: hub, rim, spoke

house: foundation, roof, wall

Jackson, Howard. 2002. Lexicography: An Introduction. London: Routledge, pp. 16-18.

# Sense Relations for "Opposite" Adjectives

#### **Gradable**

big / small

hot / cold

fast / slow

#### Complementary

alive / dead

present / absent

awake / asleep

#### **Relational Opposites**

give / receive

buy / sell

teacher / pupil

More X is less Y; more Y is less X

Not X = Y; not Y = X

If A is B's X, then B is A's Y

Fromkin, Victoria & Robert Rodman. 1998. *An Introduction to Language*, 6th edition. Forth Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, pp. 166-168.

# **Denotation and Connotation**

"While the denotation is the straightforward, neutral relation between a word and its referent, the connotation brings in the, often emotive, associations that a word may have for a speaker or a community of speakers."

Jackson, Howard. 2002. Lexicography: An Introduction. London: Routledge, p. 16.

# Connotation

fundamentalist / fundamentalism inspire
die, peg out, and kick the bucket bachelor vs. spinster plan vs. scheme propaganda stereotype

Some examples from Howard Jackson. *Lexicography: An Introduction*. London: Routledge, 2002, p. 16. Some examples from Sidney I. Landau. 2001. *Dictionaries: The Art and Craft of Lexicography*, second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, p. 156.

## Collocation

"The meaning of a word is also determined by its...collocation, the other words that typically accompany it in the structure of sentences and discourses."

# **Lexical Facts**

(Hudson, 1988)

- Form of a word (Spelling)
- Pronunciation
- Structure / Morphology
- Meaning
- Grammar / Syntax / Use in a sentence
- Collocations
- Usage
- Origin / Etymology

Jackson, Howard. 2002. Lexicography: An Introduction. London: Routledge, pp. 18-20.