How To Use A Thesaurus

Roget's Thesaurus

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Thesaurus (information retrieval)

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In the context of information retrieval, a thesaurus (plural: "thesauri") is a form of controlled vocabulary that seeks to dictate semantic manifestations of metadata in the indexing of content objects. A thesaurus serves to minimise semantic ambiguity by ensuring uniformity and consistency in the storage and retrieval of the manifestations of content objects. ANSI/NISO Z39.19-2005 defines a content object as "any item that is to be described for inclusion in an information retrieval system, website, or other source of information". The thesaurus aids the assignment of preferred terms to convey semantic metadata associated with the content object.

A thesaurus serves to guide both an indexer and a searcher in selecting the same preferred term or combination of preferred terms to represent a given subject. ISO 25964, the international standard for information retrieval thesauri, defines a thesaurus as a "controlled and structured vocabulary in which concepts are represented by terms, organized so that relationships between concepts are made explicit, and preferred terms are accompanied by lead-in entries for synonyms or quasi-synonyms."

A thesaurus is composed by at least three elements: 1-a list of words (or terms), 2-the relationship amongst the words (or terms), indicated by their hierarchical relative position (e.g. parent/broader term; child/narrower term, synonym, etc.), 3-a set of rules on how to use the thesaurus.

Thesaurus

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A thesaurus (pl.: thesauri or thesauruses), sometimes called a synonym dictionary or dictionary of synonyms, is a reference work which arranges words by their meanings (or in simpler terms, a book where one can find different words with similar meanings to other words), sometimes as a hierarchy of broader and narrower terms, sometimes simply as lists of synonyms and antonyms. They are often used by writers to help find the best word to express an idea:

...to find the word, or words, by which [an] idea may be most fitly and aptly expressed

Synonym dictionaries have a long history. The word 'thesaurus' was used in 1852 by Peter Mark Roget for his Roget's Thesaurus.

While some works called "thesauri", such as Roget's Thesaurus, group words in a hierarchical hypernymic taxonomy of concepts, others are organised alphabetically or in some other way.

Most thesauri do not include definitions, but many dictionaries include listings of synonyms.

Some thesauri and dictionary synonym notes characterise the distinctions between similar words, with notes on their "connotations and varying shades of meaning". Some synonym dictionaries are primarily concerned with differentiating synonyms by meaning and usage. Usage manuals such as Fowler's Dictionary of Modern English Usage or Garner's Modern English Usage often prescribe appropriate usage of synonyms.

Writers sometimes use thesauri to avoid repetition of words – elegant variation – which is often criticised by usage manuals: "Writers sometimes use them not just to vary their vocabularies but to dress them up too much".

Glossary of American terms not widely used in the United Kingdom

of British words not widely used in the United States "101 adjective

definition in British English Dictionary & Thesaurus - Cambridge Dictionary Online" - This is a list of American words not widely used in the United Kingdom. In Canada and Australia, some of the American terms listed are widespread; however, in some cases, another usage is preferred.

Words with specific American meanings that have different meanings in British English and/or additional meanings common to both dialects (e.g., pants, crib) are to be found at List of words having different meanings in British and American English. When such words are herein used or referenced, they are marked with the flag [DM] (different meaning).

Asterisks (*) denote words and meanings having appreciable (that is, not occasional) currency in British English, but nonetheless distinctive of American English for their relatively greater frequency in American speech and writing. Americanisms are increasingly common in British English, and many that were not widely used some decades ago, are now so (e.g., regular in the sense of "regular coffee").

American spelling is consistently used throughout this article, except when explicitly referencing British terms.

Thesaurus Linguae Latinae

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The Thesaurus Linguae Latinae (abbreviated as ThLL or TLL) is a monumental dictionary of Latin founded on historical principles. It encompasses the Latin language from the time of its origin to the time of Isidore of Seville (died 636).

The project was founded in 1894 by Eduard Wölfflin and the first fascicle was published in 1900. At the time, the researchers thought it would take up to 20 years to complete the thesaurus. Today, it is expected that the work will be completed around the year 2050. The last fascicle of the P-volume appeared in 2010, and as of 2025 the work is under way on N and R. The institution that carries out the work of the dictionary is located in Munich, in the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Wölfflin described the entries in the TLL as "biographies" rather than definitions.

The offices of the TLL contain copies of all surviving Latin texts from 600 CE and earlier. The stacks contain boxes that collectively contain about 10 million slips on which is "every surviving piece of writing from the classical period", sorted into usage categories by word. For example, there are about 90,000 slips for the word 'et' and 50,000 for the word 'non'. These are used as source material to create entries for each word in the thesaurus.

In 2019, the TLL posted PDF copies of each entry on its website.

The Well-Spoken Thesaurus

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The Well-Spoken Thesaurus by Tom Heehler (Sourcebooks 2011), is an American style guide and speaking aid. The Chicago Tribune calls The Well-Spoken Thesaurus "a celebration of the spoken word". The book has also been reviewed in the Winnipeg Free Press, and by bloggers at the Fayetteville Observer, and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

Bucatini

shut prior to cooking. Media related to Bucatini at Wikimedia Commons Italy portal Food portal List of pasta Baked ziti "Cook's Thesaurus: Pasta Tubes"

Bucatini (Italian: [buka?ti?ni]), also known as perciatelli (Italian: [pert?a?t?lli]), is a thick spaghetti-like pasta with a hole running through the center. It is common throughout Lazio, particularly Rome.

The similar pasta type ziti (Italian: [?dzi?ti]) consists of long hollow rods which are also smooth in texture and have square-cut edges; "cut ziti" are ziti cut into shorter tubes. There is also a wider version of ziti, zitoni (Italian: [dzi?to?ni]).

Moby Project

available from Project Gutenberg, but it is available in a 1993 version on the web. The Moby Thesaurus II contains 30,260 root words, with 2,520,264 synonyms

The Moby Project is a collection of public-domain lexical resources created by Grady Ward. The resources were dedicated to the public domain, and are now mirrored at Project Gutenberg. As of 2007, it contains the largest free phonetic database, with 177,267 words and corresponding pronunciations.

MedDRA

Dictionary for Regulatory Activities is a clinically validated international medical terminology dictionary-thesaurus used by regulatory authorities and the

A subscription-based product of the International Council for Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for Pharmaceuticals for Human Use (ICH), MedDRA or Medical Dictionary for Regulatory Activities is a clinically validated international medical terminology dictionary-thesaurus used by regulatory authorities and the biopharmaceutical industry during the regulatory process, from pre-marketing (clinical research phase 0 to phase 3) to post-marketing activities (pharmacovigilance or clinical research phase 4), and for safety information data entry, retrieval, evaluation, and presentation. Also, it is the adverse event classification dictionary.

The first version of MedDRA was released in 1999 in English and Japanese.

MedDRA is now translated into Chinese, Czech, Dutch, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Portuguese, Brazilian Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. In MedDRA version 25.0, Swedish and Latvian translations were also added.

In many countries/regions the use of MedDRA by biopharmaceutical companies is mandated for safety reporting.

Many other industries, including tobacco and cosmetics, are also beginning to use MedDRA for capturing adverse health events.

All Regulatory Members of ICH are expected to implement MedDRA within 5 years.

As of 2020, the following ICH Regulatory Members have implemented MedDRA: EC, Europe; FDA, United States; HSA, Singapore; Health Canada, Canada; MHLW/PMDA, Japan; Swissmedic, Switzerland; and TFDA, Taiwan.

Information about the implementation status of MedDRA by ICH Regulatory Members is updated by ICH on its website.

MedDRA is widely used internationally, with close to 7,500 subscribing organizations in almost 130 countries.

Each organization, regardless of its number of users, requires only one subscription to MedDRA.

Alcoholism

associated with alcohol use and alcoholism". Alcohol Research & Health. 34 (2): 135–143. PMC 3307043. PMID 22330211. Chambers English Thesaurus. Allied Publishers

Alcoholism is the continued drinking of alcohol despite it causing problems. Some definitions require evidence of dependence and withdrawal. Problematic alcohol use has been mentioned in the earliest historical records. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated there were 283 million people with alcohol use disorders worldwide as of 2016. The term alcoholism was first coined in 1852, but alcoholism and alcoholic are considered stigmatizing and likely to discourage seeking treatment, so diagnostic terms such as alcohol use disorder and alcohol dependence are often used instead in a clinical context. Other terms, some slurs and some informal, have been used to refer to people affected by alcoholism such as tippler, sot, drunk, drunkard, dipsomaniac and souse.

Alcohol is addictive, and heavy long-term use results in many negative health and social consequences. It can damage all organ systems, but especially affects the brain, heart, liver, pancreas, and immune system. Heavy usage can result in trouble sleeping, and severe cognitive issues like dementia, brain damage, or Wernicke–Korsakoff syndrome. Physical effects include irregular heartbeat, impaired immune response, cirrhosis, increased cancer risk, and severe withdrawal symptoms if stopped suddenly.

These effects can reduce life expectancy by 10 years. Drinking during pregnancy may harm the child's health, and drunk driving increases the risk of traffic accidents. Alcoholism is associated with violent and non-violent crime. While alcoholism directly resulted in 139,000 deaths worldwide in 2013, in 2012 3.3 million deaths may be attributable globally to alcohol.

The development of alcoholism is attributed to environment and genetics equally. Someone with a parent or sibling with an alcohol use disorder is 3-4 times more likely to develop alcohol use disorder, but only a minority do. Environmental factors include social, cultural and behavioral influences. High stress levels and anxiety, as well as alcohol's inexpensive cost and easy accessibility, increase the risk. Medically, alcoholism is considered both a physical and mental illness. Questionnaires are usually used to detect possible alcoholism. Further information is then collected to confirm the diagnosis.

Treatment takes several forms. Due to medical problems that can occur during withdrawal, alcohol cessation should often be controlled carefully. A common method involves the use of benzodiazepine medications. The medications acamprosate or disulfiram may also be used to help prevent further drinking. Mental illness or other addictions may complicate treatment. Individual, group therapy, or support groups are used to attempt to keep a person from returning to alcoholism. Among them is the abstinence-based mutual aid fellowship

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). A 2020 scientific review found clinical interventions encouraging increased participation in AA (AA/twelve step facilitation (TSF))—resulted in higher abstinence rates over other clinical interventions, and most studies found AA/TSF led to lower health costs.

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