

Impulsreferat: **Consequences of research into dictionary use**



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Content

1. Consequences for a specific dictionary, dictionary types, „the“ dictionary
2. Effects on the lexicographical process

1. Consequences for dictionaries

What we need to keep in mind in this context is:

- Is a usage study looking at a group of dictionaries, a dictionary type, or „the“ dictionary?  Is a usage study carried out to learn more about a specific dictionary?
- Is a usage study implemented in the context of a dictionary project?  Is a usage study realized in a metalexicographic research context, without reference to a specific dictionary project?

1. Consequences for dictionaries

- **Does every result of usage studies have necessarily an effect on dictionaries?**
 - **Yes**, of course, why else should we carry out a study, if not to learn how to improve dictionaries?
 - **No**, not necessarily, if the results show that there is no need to improve, to change, or to plan a dictionary differently. (but: does this seem likely?)

1. Consequences for dictionaries

- **Should every result of a usage study have an effect on dictionaries?**
 - **Yes**, if we don't hope for possible effects we wouldn't need to carry out a study.
 - **No**, usage research can also be carried out in a purely metalexicographical context.

1. Consequences for dictionaries

- **What is to be done when results clearly contradict the concept for a dictionary in question?**
 - Nothing
 - Close consideration of the possibility to adjust the concept
 - Possibly changes in the dictionary (content, presentation, ...)

2. Effects on the lexicographical process

- **Does research into dictionary use necessarily effect the lexicographical process of the dictionary in question?**
 - **Yes**, of course, since the results may lead to changes in the concept, to completion of lexicographical information, to modifications of the presentation ...
 - **No**, since the results may confirm all aspects of the dictionary (but again: does this seem likely?)

2. Effects on the lexicographical process

- **Should usage research be carried out, if from the start it is clear that possible results will not or cannot be taken into consideration in the lexicographical process?**
 - **Yes**, it is always useful to gain insights into the usage of one's dictionary, because it may effect plans for new dictionaries.
 - **No**, if a dictionary has to be realised on a small scale it is better to save time and money for research studies.

Thank you and see you in
Arbeitsgruppe III!