

# A WINE DICTIONARY FOR NON-DRINKERS: LSP DICTIONARY FUNCTIONS

PAMELA FABER BENÍTEZ

PILAR LEÓN ARAÚZ

CHANTAL PÉREZ HERNÁNDEZ

*Universidad de Granada*

A dictionary, in the same way as any other text, is written with a specific user group in mind. At the function level dictionaries implicitly define their user groups by making choices regarding the amount and types of information provided in each lexical entry. Primary considerations in this respect are the user profile and the special needs of the user group (Bergenholtz and Nielson 2006).

In specialized lexicography user needs are inevitably linked to the knowledge level of potential readers. These dictionary users have a situational context, and engage in activities, which can be facilitated by lexicographic data. Such information significantly affects both the micro and macrostructural design of the lexical resource, which should be tailored to what the dictionary will specifically be used for. This is directly related to Wiegand's conception of *genuine purpose* (Wiegand 1998:52), which is defined by Bergenholtz and Tarp (2003: 176) as the totality of functions of a given dictionary and the subject field(s) that it covers. This paper focuses on the dictionary functions and design characteristic of a specialized learners' dictionary on wine terminology.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

A dictionary, in the same way as any other text, is written with a specific user group in mind. Specialized (LSP) dictionaries focus on a specific subject field, and can be classified in three types: a multi-field dictionary broadly covering several knowledge areas, a single-field dictionary narrowly covering one particular subject field (e.g., law), and a sub-field dictionary covering a subfield within a broader knowledge domain (e.g., constitutional law) (Bergenholtz, H, and S. Tarp. (eds.) 1995: 58).

At the function level, dictionaries implicitly define their user groups by making choices regarding the amount and types of information provided both inside and outside each lexical entry. Primary considerations in this respect are user profile and the special needs of the user group (Bergenholtz and Nielsen 2006).

In specialized lexicography user needs are inevitably linked to the knowledge level of potential readers, who have a situational context, and engage in activities, which can be facilitated by lexicographic data. Such information significantly affects both the micro and macrostructural design of the lexical resource, which should be tailored to what the dictionary will be used for. This is directly related to Wiegand's conception of *genuine purpose* (Wiegand 1998:52), which is defined by Bergenholtz and Tarp (2003: 176) as the totality of functions of a given dictionary and the subject field(s) that it covers.

## 2. PRAGMATIC CONTEXT

As suggested by Abel and Ralli (2006), the description of pragmatic context can be approached by combining the concepts of *use situation* (Wiegand 1998) and *user situation* (Bergenholtz and Tarp, 2003; Bergenholtz and Nielsen, 2006 *inter alia*) so as to enjoy the best of both worlds.

LSP dictionaries are generally written by experts for other experts. The authors of the dictionary may be experts in their technical or scientific field, but are rarely experts in specialized lexicography. They do not make allowances for the fact that such dictionaries are often consulted by lay or semi-specialized users, who do not possess their same mastery of the subject field. An important issue in specialized lexicography is how technical and scientific concepts should be represented so as to provide a non-expert user with an adequate understanding of their meaning as well as sufficient knowledge of their location within the general knowledge structure of a scientific or technical domain. One of the ways to help users to do this is to reconsider the scope of user guides (Nielsen 2006), and relate them to the communication and/or cognitive functions of the dictionary.

### 2.1. The *genuine purpose* of an LSP dictionary

Dictionaries have been defined as *utility products* (Weigand 1998). As such, they must be designed and compiled to provide assistance to a specific user, who faces complex needs that arise in a specific type of use situation. This

is known as their lexicographic functions<sup>1</sup> which, together with the subject field they cover, make up their *genuine purpose*.

### 2.1.1. *User group and use situation*

In order to create a profile of a specific *user group*, relevant characteristics need to be taken into account (native and foreign language, level of proficiency, level of general and/or subject–field knowledge, etc.). This is particularly relevant in the case of LSP dictionaries, since, contrary to what one might think, the group of potential users can be very heterogeneous, and may include translators with very little or no previous subject field knowledge or even a lay readers who wish to find out the meaning of a term that they have come across, for instance, in a newspaper article. However, this user profile must also be related to specific situations in which users interact with a particular lexicographical resource.

According to the functional theory of lexicography, there are two main groups of *use situations*: cognition and communication–oriented situations (Bergenholtz and Tarp, 2003; Bergenholtz and Nielsen, 2006)<sup>2</sup>. In cognition–oriented situations, users seek additional information to widen their knowledge about the conceptual structure of a particular subject–field (biology, geology, engineering, etc.). Bergenholtz and Nielsen (2006: 286) explain that in these situations, the only communicative act taking place is between the lexicographer and the users of the dictionary. The users want knowledge and the lexicographers provide it at a cognitive level, nothing more. The most difficult task for the lexicographer is to decide *how much* information should be included in the dictionary, and how to design its underlying structure to make the dictionary suitable for users' needs.

On the other hand, in communication–oriented situations, two or more persons are engaged in producing or receiving a piece of language. This is the case of a translator who receives and must subsequently produce a text, as well as the case of scientific writers, proofreaders, etc. Here the lexicographer acts as a kind of mediator who helps to solve communication problems.

In this sense, each potential LSP user who may access a specialized lexicographical resource corresponds to one of these two use situations: a lay user taking part in a cognition–oriented process, and a translator or scientific writer involved in a communication–oriented situation. However, even if this clear–cut

---

<sup>1</sup> The concept of lexicographic functions has been developed mainly by researchers from the Center for Lexicography of the Aarhus School of Business since the early 1990s (Bergenholtz and Tarp, 2003; Bergenholtz and Nielsen, 2006).

<sup>2</sup> Bergenholtz and Tarp (2003:174) term these functions as “knowledge-orientated”.

distinction is widely accepted and quoted in the literature, both use situations are dialectically related (Tarp 2005:9) and are often found intermingled in a single user–type. This is certainly true of translators, who must simultaneously deal with both situations, since there is no *communication* without *cognition*. In order to successfully achieve communicative goals, translators need to be provided with knowledge about the conceptual structure underlying the subject field they are working with.

### 2.1.2. User needs

The description of user needs naturally depends on the characteristics of the user group and types of use situations. In an LSP dictionary with translation equivalents, which are aimed primarily at text producers such as scientific writers and translators, these needs may require the inclusion of information about the special subject field, the comparison between the subject field in the native and foreign culture, and both native and foreign LSP information (Bergenholtz and Nielsen, 2006:286).

Nevertheless, all these theoretical parameters dealing with user profile, use situation and user needs must be translated into practice. They should be reflected in the way information is packed in lexicographical entries, i.e. in the way definitions are organized and structured. That is perhaps the most difficult task for lexicographers.

We shall now examine how LSP dictionaries deal with this issue. The example chosen within the conceptual category of WINEMAKING is the term *fining*. In Table (1), we show the definitions of this term from various glossaries and dictionaries classified according to the type of information conveyed:

Vasse Felix Glossary
1. A clarification process [ <b>genus</b> ] involving the addition of a fining agent [ <b>result</b> ] such as bentonite [ <b>agent</b> ] onto the surface of a wine [ <b>location</b> ].
Trinor Wine Glossary
2. Process [ <b>genus</b> ] in which solid matter which clouds the wine [ <b>patient</b> ] is precipitated by dragging [ <b>result</b> ], using clays, such as bentonite or kaolin, or organic products, such as isinglass or egg white [ <b>agent</b> ].
Epicurious Wine Dictionary
3. A winemaking process [ <b>genus</b> ] that removes microscopic elements [ <b>result</b> ] such as protein particles [ <b>patient</b> ] that would cloud [ <b>cause</b> ] the wine [ <b>patient2</b> ] and phenolic compounds like tannins [ <b>patient3</b> ] that could cause bitterness and astringency [ <b>cause</b> ]. The most frequently used fining agents are activated carbon, activated charcoal, bentonite, casein egg whites, gelatin, isinglass, nylon, and polyvinyl poly-pyrrolidone (PVPP) [ <b>agent</b> ]. In addition to clarifying wines, various fining agents can also be used to remove color from white wines, deodorize wines with an off odor, and reduce acids [ <b>function</b> ].

The WineDoctor Glossary
4. A finishing process [ <b>genus</b> ], performed before bottling. A coagulant such as bentonite, isinglass or egg white [ <b>agent</b> ] is added to the wine [ <b>patient</b> ] to collect proteins and other undesirable compounds [ <b>function</b> ].
Wikipedia Glossary of Wine Terms
5. A clarification process [ <b>genus</b> ] where flocculants, such as bentonite or egg white [ <b>agent</b> ], are added to the wine [ <b>patient</b> ] to remove suspended solids [ <b>function</b> ].
Epicurus Wine Glossary
6. A traditional winemaker technique [ <b>genus</b> ] for clarifying [ <b>function</b> ] wines [ <b>patient</b> ] by adding egg whites or bentonite (clay) [ <b>agent</b> ] to casks of wine.
Fogwells Glossary
7. A method of clarification of wine [ <b>genus</b> ] using a chemical agent [ <b>agent</b> ] that is added to the wine [ <b>patient</b> ] to which certain unwanted dissolved substances and microscopic particles will adhere and can then be removed [ <b>function</b> ].
Merryvale Wine Terminology
8. Process [ <b>genus</b> ] in which protein (such as egg whites) [ <b>agent</b> ] is added to the wine [ <b>patient</b> ] to combine with and remove excess tannin [ <b>function</b> ].
The Living Wine Dictionary
9. Done to improve the clarity of a wine [ <b>function</b> ]. Materials such as eggwhites (used for red wines [ <b>patient</b> ]), isinglass (used for white wines [ <b>patient2</b> ]), bentonite are often used [ <b>agent</b> ].
EC Kraus Wine Making Glossary
10. The wine making technique [ <b>genus</b> ] of adding substances [ <b>agent</b> ] to wine [ <b>patient</b> ] to aid in its clearing [ <b>function</b> ].
WineEducation Wine Glossary
11. The method [ <b>genus</b> ] for clarifying [ <b>function</b> ] wine [ <b>patient</b> ]. Depending on the cause of the cloudiness, different agents can be used. Most, like gelatin, and egg whites, are proteins, while another is Bentonite a form of clay [ <b>agent</b> ].
California Reds Wine Glossary
12. Clarifying [ <b>genus</b> ] wine [ <b>patient</b> ] by mixing in agents such as gelatin or egg whites [ <b>agent</b> ] to remove specific components and suspended matter [ <b>function</b> ].
Grapestomper Glossary of Wine Terms
13. Clarification technique [ <b>genus</b> ] involving adding a fining agent (such as egg whites or bentonite) [ <b>agent</b> ] which attracts solids to fall to the bottom of a container [ <b>result</b> ].
Fine Vine Wines Winemaking Glossary
14. A technique [ <b>genus</b> ] for clarifying [ <b>function</b> ] wine [ <b>patient</b> ] using agents such as bentonite (powdered clay), gelatin or egg whites [ <b>agent</b> ], which combine with sediment particles and cause them to settle to the bottom, where they can be easily removed [ <b>result</b> ].
The Italian Wine Connection Wine Glossary
15. A traditional technique [ <b>genus</b> ] for clarifying [ <b>function</b> ] wines [ <b>patient</b> ] by adding material such as clay (bentonite), egg whites, gelatin or isinglass [ <b>agent</b> ] to wine containers [ <b>patient2</b> ].

Table 1. Definitions of fining

Generally speaking, FINING is a process concept type, where different substances are added to the wine to remove certain particles. As such, in order to get an overall view of the concept, suitable definitions satisfying both lay and semi-specialized user needs should account, to a certain extent, for the following elements: (1) a *genus* or generic term that designates its membership in a conceptual category; (2) a description of its *differentiae*, which are the characteristics that distinguish this concept from other winemaking processes, such as the *agents* involved and its *purpose* or *function*.

As seen in Table 1 nearly all definitions implicitly contain all these attributes, as well as the *patient* of such a process. However, the values of each attribute can be very different from the conceptual point of view. None of the definitions seem to follow a specific pattern in consonance with the needs of potential users.

No consensus can be found concerning its *genus*. FINING appears to be defined as a *process* (definitions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8), a *technique* (definitions 6, 10, 13, 14, 15) or a *method* (definitions 7, 11) and definition (9) does not even show any *genus*. Even though all three options could be used to define any kind of process or step, category membership is not accurately shown in all cases. Certain definitions do not link the concept to any specialized category (definitions 2, 8, 11, 14, 15), whereas others frame it within the global category of wine-making (definitions 3, 6, 10). Only four definitions express the right category membership by respecting the domain's intrahierarchical organization (definitions 1, 5, 12, 13), where CLARIFICATION is regarded as the superordinate concept of FINING. It seems to be the most appropriate *genus* for both lay and semi-specialized users, as it frames the concept placing it in a concrete specialized process and constitutes what Rosch et al. (1976) call the basic level (the best example of a category which is related to the best designation of any referent).

As for the attribute *agent*, most definitions are based on extensional values. They enumerate the different subtypes of FINING AGENTS, except in definition (7), where it is expressed as a chemical agent, a excessively generic term for even lay-users. In addition, some of the definitions show a hierarchical structure by including additional information in brackets, which can be very illustrative for lay-users. For instance, definition (11) indicates that egg whites are kinds of proteins and bentonite is a kind of clay.

The *patient* of such a process is, evidently, common to nearly all definitions (wine). The only exceptions are definitions (1, 3 and 9). In the first case, the value ascribed to the attribute *patient* can be confusing because it is expressed in terms of location (*onto the surface of a wine*). In definition (3) there are two patients (protein particles and phenolic compounds, like tannins). They express the exact components of a wine that can be affected by fining agents, but as opposed to the basic level of Rosch et al., they are too specific for lay-

users. Finally, in definition (9), patients are divided into two different kinds of wine (red and white) according to the kind of agent they are affected by, which also offers conceptual information for lay-users.

On the other hand, the *purpose* of FINING seems to be the less uniform attribute among all these definitions. Certain definitions, where clarification is not the *genus*, show as its function *clarifying wines* (3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 15), whereas others explain the exact purpose of clarifying a wine in the concrete step of fining.

None of these definitions is adequate for user needs. For a pragmatic perspective, all of them show major deficiencies in regards to information content and structure. In the following section, we show how to arrive at an optimal combination of definitional components for FINING, which is in consonance with dictionary user profiles, needs and situations.

### 3. TERM ENTRY STRUCTURE: THE EXAMPLE OF *FINING*

Each lexicographic entry in any specialized knowledge resource should meet both cognitive and communication needs. First of all, every concept should be linked to a conceptual network that provides the user with knowledge about its underlying structure. Secondly, the concept can be described in a frame-based microstructure where different pieces of information activate the set of most relevant conceptual relations codified in its definitional statement (Faber et al. 2006, 2007, in press).

#### 3.1 *Fining* within a conceptual network

Once concepts are ascribed to a particular category within the whole specialized domain, they are organized in a conceptual system in which they are linked by both vertical (hierarchical) and horizontal (non-hierarchical) relations to other concepts belonging to the same network.

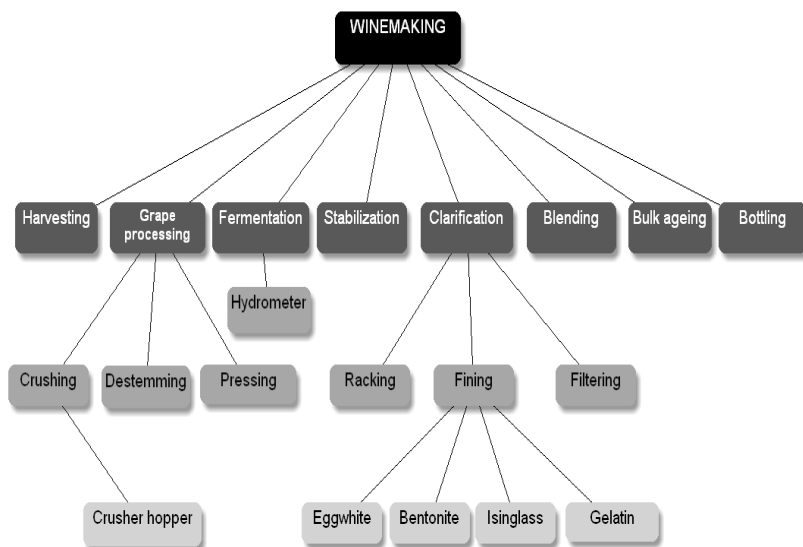


Figure 1. Conceptual network of winemaking processes.

In Figure 1, *fining* is represented as a subtype of *clarification*, which in turn is horizontally related to many other winemaking processes. Category membership can be easily reconstructed for each of these concepts. In this way, both lay and semi-specialized users can widen their knowledge as much as they need, whether they deal with cognitive or communicative situations.

### 3.1.2 Definitional microstructure

According to Strehlow (1993) the representation of concepts by means of definition statements alone is inadequate for many scientific terms. He highlights the fact that the representation of a definitional structure is comparable to a conceptual representation. In consonance with this, we have extracted four definitional elements from existing definitions and elaborated a definition, which is further enhanced with the inclusion of its associated conceptual microstructure:



<b>FINING</b>	
<b>Linguistic definition for both lay and semi-specialized users</b>	
Clarification process where [ <i>fining</i> ] agents, such as clay, isinglass, proteins or gelatin are added to the wine in order to remove suspended matter [ <i>which helps to remove color from white wines, deodorize wines with an off odor and reduce acidity</i> ].	
<b>Conceptual microstructure</b>	
IS_A	Clarification process
HAS_AGENT	<i>[Fining agents]</i> Clay Bentonite Isinglass Protein Egg white Gelatin
HAS_PATIENT	Wine Red wine White wine
HAS_FUNCTION	Remove suspended matter <i>[Remove color from white wines Deodorize wines with an off odor Reduce acidity]</i>

Table 2. Definitional template of fining.

With this type of representation, both communicative and cognitive use situations are again covered. Not only does it facilitate communication, but it also offers new information about the way the concept is related to others in the same field, since it makes explicit category organization.

On the other hand, two different types of information have been included according to our different user needs. The content in italics represents the knowledge a semi-specialized user would need as opposed to a lay user. The two elements fall into different categories. The first one constitutes topicalized information and the second one highlights the functional aspect of the concept. In the first case, lay users will not necessarily recognize *fining agents* as clay, isinglass or protein; whereas semi-specialized users will not need an extensional description of the different agents involved, as the concept will activate all types of possible agents involved in the fining process. This would be in consonance again with the basic level of Rosch et al., which seems to correspond with lay users' needs. In addition, the different subtypes have been hierarchically organized, especially for this kind of user profile, as in the case of the types of wine. In the second case, the three functions in italics are the conse-

quences of removing suspended matter in a wine, which constitutes a subordinate level of focalized information that only semi-specialized users might need.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

This article has focused on Wiegand's conception of *genuine purpose* (Wiegand 1998:52) in relation to LSP lexicography, more specifically in the domain of Winemaking. We highlight the importance of creating a resource that corresponds to the profile of a specific *user group*, and which is also related to cognition and communication-oriented situations in which users must interact with a particular lexicographical resource. As has been shown, the characteristics of the user group and types of use situations are directly related to user needs. On a more pragmatic level, we show these theoretical parameters can be translated into practice, more specifically in the way information is structured in lexicographical entries of specialized concepts organized in a constellation of interrelated dynamic knowledge frames.

#### 5. REFERENCES

- ABEL, A. and N. RALLI. (2006): "Designing multilingual online resources for general and specialized language". Euralex 2006 pre-congress tutorial. *Creating and implementing lexicographic and terminographic resources: design, representation, interfaces for users*. [http://www.eurac.edu/.../Abel\\_Ralli\\_Designing\\_Multilingual\\_Online\\_Resources.pdf](http://www.eurac.edu/.../Abel_Ralli_Designing_Multilingual_Online_Resources.pdf).
- BERGENHOLTZ, H. and S. NIELSEN. (2006): "Subject-field components as integrated parts of LSP dictionaries". *Terminology* 12:2: 281-303
- BERGENHOLTZ, H. and S. TARP. (1993): "Two opposing theories: On H. E. Weigand's recent discovery of lexicographic functions". *Hermes, Journal of Linguistics* 31: 171-186.
- BERGENHOLTZ, H. and S. TARP. (eds.) (1995): *Manual of Specialised Lexicography. The preparation of specialised dictionaries*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- FABER, P., LEÓN ARAÚZ, P., PRIETO VELASCO, J.A., and REIMERINK, A. (2007): "Linking Images and Words: the description of specialized concepts". *International Journal of Lexicography*. 20:1.
- FABER, P., MONTERO MARTÍNEZ, S., CASTRO PRIETO, M.C., SENSO RUIZ, J., PRIETO VELASCO, J.A., LEÓN ARAÚZ, P., MÁRQUEZ LINARES, C., and VEGA EXPÓSITO, M. (2006): "Process-oriented terminology management in the domain of Coastal Engineering". *Terminology* 12:2.
- FABER, P., MÁRQUEZ LINARES, C., and VEGA EXPÓSITO, M. (2005): "Framing Terminology: A Process-Oriented Approach". *META* 50(4): CD-ROM.
- LEÓN ARAÚZ, P., FABER, P., PÉREZ HERNÁNDEZ, C. (in press): "LSP dictionaries and their genuine purpose: a frame-based example from MarcoCosta". In *Euralex Proceedings* 2008.
- NIELSEN, S. (2006): "A Functional Approach to User Guides". In: *Dictionaries: Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America*, No. 27: 1-20.
- ROSCH, E. H., et al. (1976): "Basic objects in natural categories". *Cognitive Psychology* 8:328-439.

STHREHLOW, R. (1993): "Terminological standardization in the physical sciences". In Sonneveld, Henry B. y Kurt L. LOENING (eds.) *Terminology: Applications in interdisciplinary communication*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 127–140.

TARP, S. (2005): "The pedagogical dimension of the well-conceived specialised dictionary". *Iberica* 10: 7–21.

WEIGAND, H.E. (1998): *Wörterbuchforschung. Untersuchungen zur Wörterbuchbenutzung, zur Theorie, Geschichte, Kritik and Automatisierung der Lexicographie*. 1. Berlin/New York: de Gruyter.

### 5.1. Dictionaries and glossaries on-line:

- Vasse Felix Glossary: <http://www.vassefelix.com.au/glossary.asp>
- Trinor Wine Glossary: <http://www.trinor.com/WineEN/WineTermsEN.html>
- Epicurious Wine Dictionary: <http://www.epicurious.com/tools/winedictionary>
- The WineDoctor Glossary: <http://www.thewinedoctor.com/glossary/glossary.shtml>
- Wikipedia Glossary of Wine Terms:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary\\_of\\_wine\\_terms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glossary_of_wine_terms)
- Epicurus Wine Glossary: <http://www.epicurus.com/Glossary/wine/>
- Fogwells Glossary: <http://www.fogwells.com/webworks/glossary/f-1.html>
- Merryvale Wine Terminology <http://www.merryvale.com/wine-education/wine-terminology.html>
- The Living Wine Dictionary: [http://www.stratsplace.com/dict/f\\_dict.html](http://www.stratsplace.com/dict/f_dict.html)
- EC Kraus Wine Making Glossary: [www.eckraus.com/wine-making-glossary.html](http://www.eckraus.com/wine-making-glossary.html)
- WineEducation Wine Glossary: <http://www.wineeducation.com/glosa.html>
- California Reds Wine Glossary: <http://www.californiareds.com/wine-glossary-1.html>
- Grapestomper Glossary of Wine Terms:  
<http://www.grapestomper.com/wineglossary.html>
- Fine Vine Wines Winemaking Glossary:  
[http://www.finevinewines.com/Home\\_Wine\\_Making\\_Glossary.htm](http://www.finevinewines.com/Home_Wine_Making_Glossary.htm)
- The Italian Wine Connection Wine Glossary:  
[http://www.theitalianwineconnection.com/Glossaries/Italian\\_Wine/ta.php](http://www.theitalianwineconnection.com/Glossaries/Italian_Wine/ta.php)