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Is a Hybrid Bilingual Dictionary a Tenable Proposition?

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Abstract

Over the past three decades, great strides have been made in the field of pedagogical monolingual dictionaries in English. By comparison, the content, methodology and the primary functions of the bilingual dictionary (BD) have remained largely unaltered. Research and experience in the fields of translation and AFL/EFL within the Arabic context, however, indicate that the status quo of the Arabic-English dictionary is untenable as present dictionaries are evidently not only inadequate but are likely to lead to errors of usage. Therefore, it is felt that extensive modifications need to be made to the Arabic-English dictionary in order to make it more pedagogically oriented for foreign learners and more responsive to the actual needs of Arab translation professionals and language learners. The proposal will result in the production of a hybrid dictionary intended for decoding and encoding purposes. The methodology, content and functions, served by this hybrid dictionary as well as the vast potential offered by electronic lexicography mean that traditional dichotomies in dictionary typology thought to be mutually exclusive need to be reconsidered. Equally, more scholarly attention should be paid to this new kind of hybrid dictionary.

Keywords: dictionary, lexicography, bilingual, pedagogical, translation, features, English, Arabic.





“Swearing at the dictionary must be any translator’s favorite pastime” (Newmark, 1991, p. 60)

Over the past three decades, great strides have been made in the field of pedagogical monolingual dictionaries in English. By comparison, the content, methodology and the primary functions of the bilingual dictionary (BD) have remained largely unaltered. Research and experience in the fields of translation and AFL/EFL within the Arabic context, however, indicate that the status quo of the Arabic-English dictionary is untenable as present dictionaries are evidently not only inadequate but are likely to lead to errors of usage. Therefore, it is felt that extensive modifications need to be made to the Arabic-English dictionary in order to make it more pedagogically oriented for foreign learners and more responsive to the actual needs of Arab translation professionals and language learners. The proposal will result in the production of a hybrid dictionary intended for decoding and encoding purposes. The methodology, content and functions, served by this hybrid dictionary as well as the vast potential offered by electronic lexicography mean that traditional dichotomies in dictionary typology thought to be mutually exclusive need to be reconsidered. Equally, more scholarly attention should be paid to this new kind of hybrid dictionary.

1. Introduction:

Over the past few decades, monolingual lexicography has undergone several drastic changes that resulted in the production of very advanced pedagogically-oriented dictionaries. Briefly stated, the changes involved the incorporation of significant numbers of collocations and multiword units (MWU’s) in response to Sinclair’s “idiom principle”; the extensive use of corpus-driven data in definitions, usage and illustrations; the emergence of electronic and online dictionaries with all the potential they offer in terms of storage and data manipulation; the use of a controlled defining vocabulary; the overall simplification of the definitions themselves and the inclusion of pragmatic details (e.g. spoken versus written, standard versus non-standard, specialized, slang, taboo, etc) in the microstructure of the dictionary. This integration of pedagogy in the practice of lexicography increasingly reflected the conscious response of dictionary compilers to foreign language learners’ expectations. The need to provide an extra language in the monolingual dictionary also gave rise to a new type of dictionary known as the “bilingualized dictionary” which is defined as “... a hybrid dictionary; (...) a monolingual dictionary in the target language (...) with definitions, paraphrases





and examples; to these are added translation ‘equivalents’ in the source language” (Kirkness 2005. p. 75, quoted in Rasmussen, 2010).

A cursory glance at the Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries (henceforth BD’s), by comparison, will instantly reveal that neither English-Arabic dictionaries nor their Arabic-English counterparts have been impacted by the developments witnessed in monolingual lexicography. In fact, most of the dictionaries produced, in this part of the world, have either based themselves on English monolingual dictionaries (e.g. Al-Mawrid (2008) which was based on Webster’s Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged, published in 1961 and Atlas (2002) which is a translation of the American Heritage Dictionary published in 1969) or were the outcome of personal efforts on the part of individuals (e.g. Rohi Baalbaki’s Al-Mawrid: A Modern Arabic-English Dictionary (2002) and Hans Wehr’ Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic (1961) (DMWA)). In this paper, we shall present the case for the BD, give an overview of the content of the BD in metalexicography, review the definition of equivalence in the theory of translation and how the notion differs in bilingual lexicography, list the reasons why the current Arabic-English dictionaries in the Arab World fail the user and present Al-Murshid, a new hybrid Arabic-English dictionary which aims to be pedagogically-oriented and cater for the needs of three groups of users: learners of English as a foreign language (EFL), learners of Arabic as a foreign language (AFL) and translators. We shall conclude by arguing that bilingual lexicography merits more research and that the methodology and theoretical underpinnings of Al-Murshid could be built on as a basis for the development of better bilingual paper and online dictionaries in future.

2. The Case for the Bilingual Dictionary:

In principle, the question of whether the monolingual dictionary is indeed superior to the BD or whether the first type is used more frequently by language learners than the latter are two issues that remain controversial in the literature. The fundamental changes made to the English monolingual dictionary, to make it more pedagogically-oriented, have certainly revolutionized it. These changes have also been paralleled by a great deal of scholarly interest in the subject. Metalexicographic research conducted on the BD, on the other hand, represents only a small fraction of that devoted to monolingual lexicography. This disregard of the BD, coupled with the failure of bilingual lexicographers to initiate any significant changes in their work, has meant that the field of bilingual lexicography has remained largely impervious to change for decades. To some extent, this situation is partly responsible





for the claim that the monolingual dictionary is the definitive source for language learners and even translators; the monolingual dictionary, concludes Kirkness (2005) “represents for teachers and learners alike perhaps the single most valuable source of linguistic information on all aspects of the target language” (p.78). (See also Scholfield). Warning users against relying on bilingual dictionaries, Atkins (1985) pontificates: “Monolinguals are good for you (like whole meal bread and green vegetables); bilinguals (like alcohol, sugar and fatty foods) are not, though you may like them better” (p. 22). Bilingual dictionaries, moreover, are viewed as “counterproductive because they cultivate the erroneous assumption that there is a one-to-one correspondence between the words of the two languages” (Aust, Kelley & Roby, p. 66). Ducroquet (1994) even questions the most fundamental objective the BD purports to serve: “Very few translation problems can be solved with the help of those dictionaries. Worse still, the use of bilingual dictionaries can be positively damaging” (p. 48). Other researchers, like Marcello (1998), are less dogmatic and do not seem to favor one type of dictionaries over the other; rather, they claim that the dictionary to be used depends on the language proficiency of the user. Stein (2002) supports this view: “The most natural progression seems to be from the bilingual to the monolingual English learners’ dictionary to the monolingual general-purpose dictionary” (p.28). To some, both monolingual and bilingual dictionaries present the user with problems or are of limited use (Atkins, 1985; McCarthy, 1990; Laufer and Hadar, 1997). But this progression from the bilingual to the monolingual dictionary is questioned by Hartmann (1992) who states: “I could not find any evidence ... that learners were prepared to be weaned away from the BD to the monolingual, even if the latter were readily available” (p, 64). But advocacy for the BD is not totally absent; there are researchers who are either in favor of the BD (Hayati, 2006) or have come to the conclusion that language learners do prefer or actually use the BD more often than its monolingual counterpart (Tomaszczyk 1986; Piotrowski 1989; Raudaskoski, 2002; Varantola, 2002) whether for translation or in foreign language learning. Piotrowski (1989), for example, comments: “no matter what their level of competence, foreign learners and users use their bilingual dictionaries as long as they use dictionaries at all” (p. 73).

There is no denying that the monolingual dictionary offers distinct advantages to the user. Equally valid is the claim that bilingual dictionaries remain far behind in their theoretical underpinnings, methodology, technical specifications and content if compared to the latest versions of the major monolingual dictionaries. But when all is said and done, bilingual dictionaries remain an essential tool for the translator





and the language learner and they will continue to be around for as long as these two groups of dictionary users exist; the BD will always be consulted to look up the interlingual meaning(s) of a word, a collocation or a MWU in SL in order to understand it in reading or use it in writing or speaking, to find some stylistic, grammatical, phonological or pragmatic information about it, to see if a certain collocation is cited or is likely to occur, to confirm a hunch or an uncertainty, to find other possible translational equivalents or to see what information the BD can offer probably before the monolingual dictionary is consulted. And in tapping the resources of the BD, the user is trying to access, at least partially, the lexical competence of the TL native speaker (Varantola, 2002).

3. Content of the Bilingual Dictionary:

Most of the theoretical work done in the field of bilingual lexicography has been primarily in BD typology (or classifications) and the features that need to be present in the BD (Scherba, 1940; Haas, 1962; Malkiel, 1959; Quemada, 1968; Zgusta, 1971; Al-Kasimi, 1977; Huang Jianhua, 1987; Landau, 1989; Atkins, 1996; James, 1998 and Klapicová et al, 2004). An overview of Zgusta (1971), Landau (1989) and Haensch and Omeñaca (2004) shows that the three studies agree on the inclusion of the following features in the dictionary:

- a. the SL entry word in its canonical form;
- b. a translation of the L1 entry in L2;
- c. grammatical information (it is not clear if this information pertains to L1 or L2);
- d. pronunciation.

Zgusta (1971) recommends the inclusion of encyclopedic information and etymology. Landau (1989) and Haas (1962), on the other hand, add information on usage as well as the inclusion of names and specialized terms. Haensch and Omeñaca (2004), in turn, suggest usage restrictions and illustrative examples. Compactness due to space restrictions in the paper dictionary is also considered by both Landau (1989) and Haas (1962) with the latter proposing one more feature; namely that the BD should be adapted for machine translation. A fairly detailed description of the content of the electronic bilingual dictionary entry is also given in Atkins (1996) where twenty major features are cited, along with the data type, mode, information content, function and user.





This paper will show that these features are insufficient if a hybrid dictionary is to be produced; some of them need to be reconsidered while others need to be added. But before we address those features, let us turn our attention to the notion that lies at the very core of BD, namely the notion of translational (or interlingual) equivalence.

4. Interlingual Equivalence: Challenges:

“Equivalence,” says Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation (2001), “is a central concept in translation theory, but it is also a controversial one” (p. 96). Chesterman (1970) echoes the same thoughts when he describes equivalence as “the big bugbear of translation theory, more argued about than any other single idea” (p. 9 quoted in Emery, 2004). How controversial the issue is can be seen in the divergent views held by translation theorists. Vinay and Darbelnet, Catford, Nida, Juliane House, Wolfram Wilss and Koller represent at one extreme a group of theorists that considers equivalence essential in the theory of translation. At the other extreme, we encounter names such as Snell-Hornby (1988) and Vermeer in his Skopostheorie, with the first describing equivalence as “unsuitable as a basic concept in translation theory” and “an illusion of symmetry between languages which hardly exists beyond the level of vague approximations and which distorts the basic problems of translation” (p. 22). Snell-Hornby also advocates the view that equivalence is basically a dynamic notion, a point of view that seriously undermines the efforts of the bilingual lexicographer. A third group has chosen to chart a “middle course”; it is eminently represented by Peter Newmark and Mona Baker who follow a bottom-up approach to text translation, with the word being the first level of analysis in translation. Yet, even Baker (1992) views the concept of equivalence as a term that is used “for the sake of convenience - because most translators are used to it rather than because it has any theoretical status” (pp. 5-6).

From the bilingual lexicographer’s standpoint, finding translational equivalents for lexical units in the SL is the quintessential issue. Zgusta (1971) sums up this task as follows: “(The) basic purpose (of the BD) is to coordinate with the lexical units of one language those lexical units of another language which are equivalent in their lexical meaning” (294). But equivalence at the text level – i.e. equivalence viewed from the perspective of translation as a process and/ or as a product – does not necessarily correspond with the translational equivalence sought and recorded in the BD (Podolej, 2009). Textual (or contextual) equivalence is a characteristic of the text as a communicative event and is, by necessity, context-sensitive,



dynamic and subject to stylistic, pragmatic, cultural and syntactic constraints. The method of translation (as defined by Newmark) also has an immediate bearing on the notion. Equivalence in the BD, on the other hand, holds between lexical units of varying lengths and is inevitably semantics-oriented, static and context-free. This being the case, translational equivalents found in the dictionary may undergo certain changes before they find any form of representation in the target text at the hands of the translator, if any at all. This distinction is crucial as it crystallizes the nature and limitations of equivalence in the BD and expresses the fact that, for the translator, bilingual equivalence in the dictionary serves as the starting point in the translation process and will contribute to the final product without necessarily being identical with it.

Translational equivalence, however, is not without its complications. For one thing, the lexicographer has to recognize and find solutions for the problem of anisomorphism or mismatch in the two lexical systems in question. There are thousands of cases where a given lexical item in the SL is not lexicalized in the TL, mostly due to social and cultural diversity (Cvilkaitė, 2007). In Arabic, one can cite examples of words indicating musical instruments (ربابة, قانون, عود), religious terms (سورة, آية, وضوء, غمرة, حج), kinds of food (المكبوس, المندى, المظني), clothes (غتر, عقال, شداش, ثوب), flora and fauna terms (القتاد, القصيص, الطلح), etc., none of which is found in the English lexis. This asymmetry in language is also reflected at the grammatical level; it is not unusual to find a TL verb with a SL adjectival equivalent, or a SL noun that is expressed by a TL verb, and vice versa.

Even when a TL equivalent is believed to exist, it will be realized that the relationship between the two items the SL word and its TL equivalent is a very complex one: it could be one-to-one, one-to-many or many-to-one. In order for the dictionary to be adequate, homonymous and polysemous entries have to be explicitly stated in the source language. The dictionary user will need a great amount of detail to distinguish between the different senses of the entry itself as well as between the various synonyms given in the TL as translational equivalents and the concomitant restrictions that apply to their usage. The interlingual treatment of synonyms is particularly important as “true” synonyms are rarely found even within the same language. In implementing all this, the bilingual lexicographer has at his disposal a wide range of translation procedures which must be carefully cultivated: substitution, borrowing, paraphrase, literal translation, etc.

The selection of the appropriate translation procedure must be combined with another tendency that responds to the needs of the translator, namely giving



preference to “insertable” equivalents rather than lengthy, explanatory definitions. “The equivalents,” says Akhmanova (1975), “should be of an insertable kind, i.e. capable of being used in actual texts and, preferably, monolexemic” (p. 127, quoted in Tomaszczyk, 1986). Zgusta (1986) similarly calls for the avoidance of definitions and explanations in favor of equivalents of the type proposed by Akhmanova, describing the process as “... a perfectly natural requirement. Lexicographers have followed it since time immemorial, but we also know that they have not succeeded in each and every case.” (p.147).

But the major objection that is usually raised against bilingual lexicography is that although words are linguistic units operating in larger and more complex systems, the dictionary tends to deal with them as isolated or “context-free” elements (Marcinkeviciene, p. 53). This gap between text equivalence and dictionary equivalence has also been observed by Snell-Hornby (2001) who comments, “It is common knowledge among professional translators that a translated text is not merely a string of dictionary equivalents, and that the relationship between languages and cultures is far more complex than can be expressed by lexical equivalence” (p. 538).

Moreover, actual language usage shows that words normally have more (at least potential) senses than those listed against them in the BD: According to Sharoff (2004):

Dictionaries give translation equivalents for a headword, but words taken in their contexts can be translated in many more ways than indicated in dictionaries. The cause for the problem is that dictionaries cannot address the difference between the way concepts and words are combined in the source language vis-à-vis their potential combinations in the target language” (p. 336)

In line with the last item referred to above, Sharoff also emphasizes that the BD tends to provide the user with translational equivalents that belong to the same part of speech, ignoring the fact that translational equivalents may practically belong to any grammatical category (ibid, p. 337): a verb may be translatable by a noun, an adjective by a verb, etc.

5. Why does the BD fail the user?

In addition to the complexities of interlingual equivalence discussed in the preceding paragraph, the content and methodologies of the Arabic-English



dictionaries in circulation in the Arab World fail the user in numerous ways and for a varied number of reasons which can be summed up in the following points. Illustrative examples will be taken from DMWA, Al-Mawrid and Al-Murshid.

i. The dictionary may not list as entries or sub-entries all the words in a given language or domain. However, as we are dealing with general Modern Standard Arabic, no highly specialized terms are expected to be included in DMWA or Al-Mawrid though we expect lexical items of a general nature to be adequately covered. In this regard, one will note that as DMWA was first published in the early sixties and has never been updated, all general words and phrases that have entered the Arabic language since then are simply non-existent in the dictionary. To illustrate, the word computer حاسوب and all the related words do not appear therein. Examples would include بَرْمَجِيَّات : software; فَأَرَة : mouse; مُدَوَّنَة : blog and نَحْمِل : pager. The new senses in which the words صَفْحَة : page, مَوْقِع : site and تَحْمِيل : downloading; the metaphorical sense of the Arabic word شَبَكَة : internet, ; the new compound noun بريد اليكتروني : e-mail, etc. have been used are also absent as are the idioms ذَرَفَ دُمُوعَ التَّماسيح، دم جديد، خلف أبواب مُغلقة، مُسلح حتَّى الأُسنان

ii. The dictionary fails to recognize all the possible senses and sub-senses of a given headword. Take for example the senses in which the verb أَخَذَ is used and you will find that the following senses are missing altogether from DMWA:

أَخَذَ: أَهْلَكَ: a. to destroy b. to wipe out	أَخَذَ: أَسَرَ: a. to capture (soldiers) b. take captive (the king) c. to take (civilians) prisoner
أَخَذَ: تَنَاوَلَ: to pick up	أَخَذَ: قَتَلَ: a. to destroy b. to kill
أَخَذَ: اسْتَغْرَقَ: to take (a long time)	أَخَذَ: شَرَعَ فِي: a. to begin (to cry) b. to commence (work) c. to start (running)
أَخَذَ: ~ الْقِطَارَ: اسْتَقَلَّ: to take (a cab, the train)	أَخَذَ: إِشْتَقَّ: to derive (a word; from a tree)

أَخَذَ: اسْتَوْلَى عَلَى: a. to take possession of (a castle, a station) b. to appropriate (a site, wealth) c. to have (a 40% share) d. to possess e. to take hold of (a place)	أَخَذَ: سَيَّطَرَ عَلَى: a. to capture (a citadel, a city, a position) b. to control (coastal regions) c. to seize (a position, a town) d. to take over (a position)
أَخَذَ: عَاقَبَ: to punish (Pharaoh's people)	أَخَذَ: حَبَسَ: a. to put in prison b. to imprison

iii. The dictionary does not provide enough detail as to how one given sense or sub-sense is different from the other senses in the SL. An example of this problem is reflected in the Arabic verb *سما* as cited in DMWA where no explanations are given for the different senses in which the entry may be used in Arabic. As a result, the list of English synonyms given against it would not be of any real help to the user as the latter will simply fail to match the Arabic senses with their English equivalents:

سما: to be high, elevated, raised, erect, lofty, tall, eminent, prominent; to rise high, tower up; to be above or beyond; to be too proud; to be too high or difficult, to be or go beyond the understanding of, exceed understanding; to rise; to be higher; to strive, aspire.

iv. The dictionary fails to identify the unique and strong collocations or the MWU's in the SL. The following examples represent just a fraction of the MWU's that can be listed under *أخذ* but do not appear in DMWA:

أَخَذَ الْأَمْرَ عَلَى عَاتِقِهِ: a. to take it upon oneself b. to take a matter in one's own hands	أَخَذَ اسْتِرَاحَةً: a. to have a break/ a rest b. to take a break/ a rest
أَخَذَ بِنَأْرِهِ: a. to avenge oneself (from an enemy) b. to revenge oneself (upon an adversary) c. to take revenge (upon an enemy)	أَخَذَ بِنَاصِيئِهِ: to clutch/ grab/ hold/ seize/ take sb by the collar

أَخَذَ بِعَيْنِ الاعتبار: بالي ب: a. to heed (advice, warnings) b. to pay heed to (advice, danger) c. to take heed of (suggestions, warnings)	أَخَذَ بِخَنَاقٍ: to grab/ seize by the neck
أَخَذَ بِمَجَامِعِ القلوب: أَسَرَهَا: a. to capture/ captivate/ steal/ win the heart b. to enthrall	أَخَذَ بِعَيْنِ الاعتبار: وَضَعَ فِي الحِسَابِ: a. to allow for b. to make allowance (s) for c. to take into account/ consideration
أَخَذَ بِنَاصِيئِهِ: to hold sb by the forelock	

v. The dictionary provides only a partial list of translational equivalents in the TL, either because of space constraints, failure to recognize potential English equivalents or sheer carelessness. For the sake of comparison, we will cite examples from Al-Mawrid and then give after them senses given to the same word or phrase in the author's dictionary, Al-Murshid:

Al-Mawrid

أَخْفَقَ: حَبِطَ, فَشِلَ:

to fail, be unsuccessful, fizzle out, flop, miss the mark, lose ground, miss, be unable to do or become, miscarry, go wrong, come to nothing, be abortive

Al-Murshid:

أَخْفَقَ: (ف) خَابَ, فَشِلَ:

a. to be a dead duck (inf) b. (an attempt, an initiative) to be abortive c. (a project) to be dashed to the ground d. (a candidate, a team) to be down for the count e. (an effort, a search) to be fruitless f. to be unsuccessful g. close, but no cigar (inf) h. to come a cropper/ unglued/ unstuck (spoken) i. (a plan, a project) to come to grief (inf) j. (efforts, expectations) to come to nothing k. to fail l. (an attempt) to fall flat m. to fall flat on one's face (inf) n. to lay an egg (inf) o. (a coup, a plot) to fizzle out p. (a play) to flop (inf) q. (a plan) to go down the tube (inf) r. (a business, a company) to go belly up s. (a plan, a project) to jump the rails t. to miss the mark u. not to come to anything/ much v. to run aground w. to go wrong x. (a project) to miscarry y. (an attempt) to be abortive

vi. The dictionary fails to distinguish between the different interlingual synonyms in some or all of the following: collocational ranges, register, level of formality, connotative meaning, partial difference in sense or syntactic restrictions under which the TL equivalent operates. From experience, this author can say that this particular problem has been one of the most evident and most difficult to deal with for the Arab user of the Arabic-English dictionary. When searching for an English equivalent of a certain Arabic word, the dictionary user will be faced by a long list of English synonyms with nothing that may help him choose the equivalent he actually needs. The problem is compounded because the procedure of rendering an Arabic word by a set of English single-word synonyms is quite common in the BD (Abu-Ssaydeh, 2001). The natural consequence is that students will, more often than not, produce written or translated texts that are not dissimilar to those obtained from Google Translate due to the lack of sufficient usage guidance given in the dictionary. Again, for the sake of illustration, we will cite representative examples from Al-Mawrid and Al-Murshid:

a. Al-Mawrid:

أَخْلَبَ: خَرَقَ, خَالَفَ:

to break, breach, commit a breach of, violate, infringe, infract, contravene, transgress; to default, fail to meet or perform; to prejudice; to disturb, upset, disrupt

Al-Murshid:

أَخْلَ: (ف) أَخْلَبَ ب: ~ اتَّفَاقِيَّة: : إِنْتَهَكَ:

a. to breach (an agreement, a law) b. to break (a law) c. to commit a breach (to conditions, the peace) d. to contravene (f) (a constitution, a covenant, a principle) e. to infract (a code, a an ordinance; upon rules) f. to infringe (laws, right; upon copyright) g. to transgress (the command of God, a tradition) h. to violate (an agreement, sanctions)

b. Al-Mawrid:

تَرَشَّرَ:

to chatter, prate, babble, blab, blabber, tattle, gossip

Al-Murshid:

ثُرَثُرَ: (ف) هَذَرَ:

a. to blab (inf) b. to babble c. to blabber (inf) d. to chatter e. to gab (colloquial) f. to prate g. to tattle h. to yak (inf)

c. Al-Mawrid:

جُنُونِي:

crazy, insane, mad; frantic, frenzied, wild, raging, hysteric(al), uncontrolled

Al-Murshid:

جُنُونِي: انْدِفَاع ~: جامح: wild (rage, rush, talk)	جُنُونِي: (ص) يَنْصِفُ بِالْعَصْبِيَّةِ الشَّدِيدَةِ: a. frantic (effort, pace, situation) b. frenzied (attack)
جُنُونِي: ضِحْكَة ~: هَسْتِيرِي: hysterical (laugh, outburst, overreaction)	جُنُونِي: فِيهِ مَخَاطَرَة كَبِيرَة: wild (plan, scheme)
جُنُونِي: فِي مُنْتَهَى الْحُمُقِ: a. crazy (idea, scheme) b. dopy (inf) c. foolish d. harebrained (ideas, plan, scheme) e. insane (ideas, plan, scheme) f. mad (scheme) g. rattlebrained (idea) h. screwball (notion, proposal, theory)	جُنُونِي: فِكْرَة ~: يَنْجَاوِزُ الْمَعْقُولِ: wild (concept, idea, plan, scenario) جُنُونِي: تَصْرُف ~: لَا يَصْدُرُ إِلَّا عَنْ مَجْنُونِ: insane (act)

vii. The dictionary fails to maximally exploit the lexical potential of the TL, for example by not paying enough attention to MWU's as possible interlingual equivalents. The following example shows the equivalents given to the phrase استنشاط غضبًا in Al-Mawrid and Al-Murshid:

Al-Mawrid:

استنشاط غضبًا:

to flame up with rage, flare up, fume, steam, seethe, boil, rage, storm, burst with anger, lose one's temper, be or become inflamed or enraged or furious

Al-Murshid:

اسْتَشَاطَ غَضَبًا:

a. to be angry (about; over a decision; with sb; at an article, an attitude) b. to be beside oneself with rage c. to be apoplectic/ boiling/ bristling/ choking/ crimson/ filled/ livid/ seething with rage d. one's face be contorted/ dark with rage e. to be boiling (with rage) f. to be enraged (at conditions; by a remark) g. to be incensed (at a suggestion; by a decision; over double standards; with an act) h. to be furious (at customers) i. to be irate j. to be mad as hell k. to be hopping mad (at/with) l. (a deity, a king) to be wrathful m. to open/ pour out the vials of one's wrath n. to be in a rage o. to fall/ fly into a rage p. to rage (against a situation; at a fate) q. to be with rage r. to be white with rage s. to be as mad as a wet hen/ as hell t. to be hopping mad u. to be steamed v. to be sick to one's stomach w. to be sore (at) x. to fly into a passion y. to froth at the mouth z. to fume aa. to do one's nut (slang) bb. to be infuriated (by) cc. to fly off the handle

viii. The dictionary uses inappropriate translation procedures, for example by giving an explanation where a single word is sufficient, by failing to provide adequate equivalents for culture-specific words, by failing to find TL equivalents for non-lexicalized items or by not observing any prioritization of translation procedures. A case in point is the inadequate equivalents of the Islamic term زكاة (zakat) which can be translated in two ways: the first is to transliterate it and the second is to explain exactly what it is within the framework of Islam. Neither of these equivalents would match the ones given in Al-Mawrid which translates the term as almsgiving, alms, charity; alms tax. The same thing applies to the concept جَرِيَّة which the same dictionary translates as tribute; tax; poll tax; capitation though its exact definition is a poll-tax payable by non-Muslims living within an Islamic state in return for protection. The word Sheikh as a title for a ruler in the Gulf Region is well established in English and does not need to be explained as title of the ruler of any one of the sheikhdoms along the Arabian Gulf (DMWA). In fact, the word sheikhdom as a political entity in The Arabian Peninsula has been supplanted by إمارة (emirate). (This is not to question the lack of cultural sensitivity Wehr shows when he uses the term Persian Gulf instead of the Arabian Gulf). The word طحينة is cited more than three million times in Google as tahina/ tahini and deserves its place in English or, at least, it can be translated as sesame paste instead of a thick sauce made of sesame oil, and served with salads, vegetables, etc. According to DMWA.

ix. The dictionary fails to recognize metaphors in the SL and/ or the TL or fails to utilize the metaphorical potential in the provision of interlingual equivalents. According to a study conducted by the author (Abu-Ssaydeh, forthcoming), it was found that out of fifty lexicalized metaphors in Arabic, Al-Mawrid failed to list twenty-eight whilst DMWA overlooks twenty-nine of these senses. This, and the fact that metaphors generate their own collocational ranges which may overlap with those of other synonyms, makes this feature a crucial one that needs to be represented in the dictionary through separate lemmatization, provision of collocations and explanations of meanings of lemmas.

x. The dictionary misleads the user by allowing him to erroneously “translate” a phrase in the SL into a phrase in the TL though a single equivalent in TL can be used:

anatomization (of beliefs, practices)	تَحْلِيلَ دَقِيقٍ: أَنْزَلَ الْعَذَابَ بِ:
to scourge	
manning (a castle, a ship)	إِمْدَادُ بِالرَّجَالِ: نُصَاعَةُ التَّعْبِيرِ:
a. eloquence b. placidity of expression	
to play (a musical instrument)	ضَرَبَ عَلَى آلَةٍ مُوسِيقِيَّةٍ: يَتَعَذَّرُ دَخْضُهُ:
a. irrefragable (evidence) b. irrefutable (argument, evidence, proof)	

6. Al-Murshid: An Attempt towards a Hybrid Dictionary:

For language students and translators concerned with Arabic, it may be surprising to know that the most recent of the three major Arabic-English dictionaries currently in circulation was in fact compiled more than twenty years ago. The first of these lexicographic works – Lane’s English-Arabic Lexicon - dates back to the nineteenth century, 1876 to be exact. In that year, an impressive attempt at the compilation of the first major Arabic-English dictionary for Classical Arabic came to an abrupt end when the famous British lexicographer Edward William Lane finally gave up the ghost at the age of seventy-four. At the time of his death, he had finished up to the letter Qaf, the twenty-first letter of the Arabic alphabet. The task of completing the dictionary was left to his great-nephew Stanley Lane-Poole who patched up the incomplete notes of the celebrated lexicographer and



published the remaining volumes of the dictionary twenty years later. The eight-volume incomplete masterpiece focuses on Classical Arabic as represented in Taj al-Arus, utilizes over a hundred language sources and organizes its material in accordance with the root of the word. It abounds in examples and citations from literature and Islamic texts. The second dictionary, (DMWA), appeared in 1961 as the English version of an Arabic-German dictionary called Arabisches Wörterbuch für die Schriftsprache der Gegenwart. Of course, one can imagine the extent of change that has taken place in both the lexical content of the Arabic language and the methodology employed in the compilation of dictionaries at large over the past fifty years. The last of these, Al-Mawrid: A Modern Arabic-English Dictionary, was published in 1988 and has not been updated since then.

In 1983, I started collecting collocations for a legal dictionary. Over the years, I began to realize that a general bilingual collocational dictionary was a much more viable undertaking. Gradually and very slowly, data started to accumulate until I have collected over seven thousand pages of Arabic-English collocations. This process was expedited by the emergence of major lexical corpora, the first of which was the British National Corpus. Following the acquisition of a copy of the corpus, I realized, within a few years, that the size of the said corpus was still small by comparison to more recent work in the field such as the Corpus of Contemporary American English. By the time I was approaching the end of my task of compiling the collocational dictionary, I became painfully aware of the inadequacy of the general Arabic-English dictionary. It was decided, therefore, that the collocational project should be shelved for the time-being and that a full-fledged general Arabic-English dictionary be compiled taking as its base the data collected for the collocations project. This cumulative effort and six years of dedication have finally resulted in the production of Al-Murshid. In what follows, I will describe and illustrate in detail the methodology this dictionary employs.

To begin with, it must be acknowledged that there are problems the bilingual lexicographers will not be able to solve because they are peculiar to the BD. Secondly, it has to be admitted that some of the complaints that the BD users have against the current BD may also be insurmountable. Beyond that, we will demonstrate that several changes can be made to the Arabic-English dictionary to make it more responsive to the actual needs of language learners and translators alike.

Al-Murshid is a general Arabic-English dictionary which aims to serve the needs of three major groups of users: AFL students, EFL students and practicing





translators. Viewed from this perspective, it will be a hybrid dictionary that is used for the purposes of decoding as well as encoding, i.e. for text comprehension (e.g. reading) and for text production (writing and translation). A new methodology will be proposed which will, in my opinion, provide solutions to a number of the problems raised earlier and enable both language learners and translators to benefit from the dictionary. This attempt at “optimal retrieval” is attained through a careful and exhaustive examination of the different sub-senses of the Arabic entry, by disambiguating the senses and sub-senses of the entries themselves as well as their interlingual equivalents through a cyclic process, by the utilization of several features (including labeling) that are intended to create a greater degree and a much more sophisticated pattern of correspondence between the Arabic sense and its English equivalent(s), by providing collocations wherever and whenever possible, by expanding the notion of equivalence beyond the traditional categories in current dictionaries and, finally and by maximally exploiting the lexical resources of both languages in an exhaustive manner to create interlingual correspondence. In this respect and in many others, Al-Murshid represents a radical departure from bilingual dictionaries currently available for users on the market. It is hoped that the ideas proposed here will find their application in other language pairs and that further suggestions can be made to improve the BD in the future. The following section will explain the microstructure of the dictionary and will seek to provide rationalization for the decisions that have been taken.

7. The Microstructure of Al-Murshid:

A. The Arabic component of the dictionary:

- i. The dictionary entries are listed alphabetically and in their canonical forms. I have resisted the frequent calls to organize the dictionary entries morphologically as the case is in Lane’s and Wehr’s dictionaries. It was decided that an alphabetized dictionary would provide easier access to the user.
- ii. The grammatical class of the headword is indicated (اسم, فعل, حرف, ظرف, صفة, الخ). (Arabic grammarians do not differentiate between اسم and صفة or نعت; however, many colleagues I consulted agreed that such a distinction can be made if it serves a clear purpose in the dictionary). The noun headword is given in the singular masculine gender as is the adjective, and the verb is cited in its simple past form and marked for the third person, singular, masculine gender.



iii. The major register to which the word belongs is given. The registers include [نبات], [فلک], [طب], [إسلام], [مسيحية], [يهودية], [كيمياء], [تشریح], among others:

a. Little Bear b. Ursa : [فلک]: بَنَاتُ نَعَشِ الصُّغْرَى:

أَبْنُوس: (ا) [نبات] الشَّجَرُ وَخَشْبُهُ: ebony

أَبْهَر: (ا) [تشریح] الشَّرِيانِ الأَوْرَاطِي: the aorta

ضِلْع: [هندسة]: side (of a triangle)

قُدْرَة: [فيزياء] الطَّاقَة الكَهْرُبَائِيَّة: output

نِصَاب: [إسلام] مَا يَتَوَجَّبُ دَفْعُ الزَّكَاةِ عَنْهُ: an amount for which zakat is to be paid

As the entries belong to Modern Standard Arabic, stylistic labels were not used in the Arabic component, though they are fairly prevalent in the English component of the dictionary.

iv. Examples of one or more collocates are often provided frequently along with an explanation of the meaning(s) of the different senses the word may have in Modern Standard Arabic. The purpose is to disambiguate the meaning and help contextualize the entry:

أَغْرَقَ: ~ الأسواق:

أَصْدَرَ: ~ عُمْلَةً:

فُتُور: ~ الحَمَاسِ: تَرَاوَعَ:

مُشْرِقَ: لَوْنٌ ~: بِهِج:

vi. The Arabic senses are based primarily on dictionaries of Modern Standard Arabic, but classical dictionaries such as Lisanu L-‘Arab were consulted whenever necessary. The purpose of the Arabic explanations of the sense is to ensure that the user will know which meaning he is looking up, because without this explanation, the entries and subentries will simply be lists of jumbled words and phrases that will not be of any practical help to the user. We must emphasize here that in giving an explanation of the Arabic entry, our purpose is not to make the Arabic part of Al-Murshid a monolingual dictionary; rather it serves to distinguish one sense or sub-sense of a given entry from another to avoid any confusion of the senses which the dictionary user may encounter in

cases where the word is polysemous or homonymous. Moreover, every care has been taken to provide precise senses and to differentiate the sub-senses of the entry. For example, the Arabic word **فِضِّي** may mean made of silver (argentic, argentous, silver, silvery), covered in silver (silver, silvery), containing silver (argentic, argentous) or similar to silver (argentine, silvery). All these senses are set apart and explained in Arabic and the precise English equivalents are given to them. A host of strategies were used for definition purposes including synonymy (إبراز: توكيد), antonymy (اتفق: ضد اختلف), contextualization: (صوت: ~ التَّحَطُّم أو الانهيار؛ صوت: ~ المذيع أو التليفزيون؛ صوت: ~ في الانتخابات أو التصويت) and short explanations (أدبي: مُتَّصِل بالأدب كالْقِصَّة والرَّوَايَة، إلخ).

vii. The different senses of the entry are listed in separate lines. These are followed by prepositional combinations (including phrasal verbs), unique and strong collocations and MWU's. Cases of polysemy (literal senses and metaphorical senses such as **جسر** as a kind of supporting structure and **جسر** in the sense of what connects, say, two civilizations and homonymy (distinct meanings of the same orthographic form like **قيد** to record and to fetter) are listed within the same lemma. MWU's categories include binomials (جينة وذهابا), formulaic expressions (شفى غليله، قضى العجب من), fixed phrases (لا عجب أن، شاء أم أبى), idioms (أهل مكة أدرى بشعابها، من تأتى نال ما تمنى) and proverbs (عمت مساء). All of these elements are organized alphabetically as well.

viii. The dictionary provides an abundance of strong collocations and medium-strength collocations by comparison with other dictionaries. This decision is motivated by the fact that collocation "contributes greatly to one's idiomaticity and nativelikeness" (James, p. 152). (See also Thomas, 1984). Secondly, collocational patterning represents one of the most confusing areas for the language learner/translator, especially in encoding, and is, therefore, "... a common source of error in L2 because learners tend to transpose L1 collocations directly into L2" (Cop and Reul, p. 797). Thirdly, their inclusion is significant as they "... can be more effective meaning discriminators than synonym glosses, which can be too vague" (ibid 805). The dictionary also cites the collocations under base and collocator headwords. MWU's, however, are listed under the first content word; for example, the unit **خُلُو الحياة ومُرَّها** will be found under **خُلُو** while the unit **ما فات مات** would be listed under **فات**. The decision to combine collocations and MWU's together is intended to facilitate access to the item that needs to be looked up and the fact that occasionally the distinction between a strong collocation and a MWU is not that clear. This ordering is represented by the verb **أتى** below:

أَتَى: (ف) جَاءَ حَضَرَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: إِسْتَأْنَفَ:	أَتَى عَلَى ذِكْرِ:
أَتَى: رَفَدَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: وَضَعَ نِهَآيَةً لَ:	أَتَى عَلَيْهِ الدَّهْرُ:
أَتَى: قَامَ بِ:	أَتَى عَلَى: أَكْمَلَ أَنْجَزَ:	أَتَى الْفَاحِشَةَ: إِرْتَكَبَهَا:
أَتَى: ~ الْجَرِيمَةَ: اقْتَرَفَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: أَشْرَفَ عَلَى:	أَتَى الْفَحْشَاءَ:
أَتَى: أَصْبَحَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: أَجْهَزَ عَلَى:	أَتَى الْمَرْأَةَ: بَاشَرَهَا:
أَتَى بِ: أَحْضَرَ جَاءَ بِ:	أَتَى عَلَى: جَمَعَ:	أَتَتْ سَاعَتُهُ: دَنَا أَجَلُهُ:
أَتَى بِ: قَدَّمَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: رَزَقَ بِ:	أَتَتْ عَلَيْهِ النَّارُ:
أَتَى بِ: أَنْجَزَ:	أَتَى عَلَى: مَرَّ بِ:	كَمَا يَأْتِي:
أَتَى عَلَى: لَمْ يَتْرُكْ شَيْئًا:	أَتَى بِالْعَجَائِبِ:	مَا يَأْتِي:
أَتَى عَلَى: قَضَى عَلَى:	أَتَى عَلَى الْأَخْضَرِ وَالْيَاسِ:	يَأْتِي فِي الْمَقَامِ الْأَوَّلِ:

ix. Dictionary senses are usually ordered in one of three ways: chronologically, on the basis of frequency or by starting with basic senses and ending with the peripheral or derived ones. In Al-Murshid, senses were not ordered in any particular manner except that intransitive verbs were listed before transitive ones, the Noun before the Adjective and the Singular Noun before the Plural Noun. This decision is due to the absence of reliable, searchable lexical corpora in Arabic and the limited resources available to the compiler.

x. No illustrative materials such as pictures or examples are used.

xi. Metaphorical senses are listed as separate sub-senses and/ or as part of a common collocation:

أَمْطَرَ: (ف) نَزَلَ الْمَطَرُ:	أَمْطَرَ بِ: إِنْهَالٌ عَلَيْهِ بِ:	أَمْطَرَ بِوَإِلٍ مِنَ السَّبَابِ/ الشَّتَائِمِ:
أَمْطَرَتِ السَّمَاءُ:	أَمْطَرَ بِالْقُبُلَاتِ:	سَمَّمَ: ~ الْعَلَقَاتِ: أَسَاءَ كَثِيرًا إِلَى:
أَمْطَرَ ب(وَإِلٍ مِنَ) الرِّصَاصِ:	أَمْطَرَ بِالصَّوَارِيخِ:	سَمَّمَ: ~ الْعُقُولِ: أَفْسَدَ:

xii. Al-Murshid focuses on the lexicon of Modern Standard Arabic (al-FuSHa?). However, the words of the Holy Quran represent part and parcel of this variety and would therefore count as an integral component of any synchronous description of Arabic. The dictionary defines the senses of Quranic words with reference

to Classical Arabic dictionaries such as Lisanu L-Arab, bilingual dictionaries, particularly Lane's Arabic-English Lexicon, dictionaries of religious terms and six major translations of the meanings of the Holy Quran.

xiii. Expressions with pragmatic functions are cited and their usage(s) is explained:

إِلَيْكَ عَنِّي: تُقَالُ لِلتَّغْيِيرِ عَنِ الضَّيْقِ أَوْ الْغَضَبِ الشَّدِيدِ:	رَجَمَهُ اللَّهُ: تُقَالُ لِلتَّرْحُمِ عَلَى الْمَيِّتِ:	يَا إِلَهِي: تُقَالُ لِلتَّعَجُّبِ:
فِي أَمَانِ اللَّهِ: تُقَالُ عِنْدَ الْوَدَاعِ أَوْ فِي نَهَايَةِ الْحَدِيثِ:	أَمَدَ اللَّهُ عُمرَهُ/ فِي عُمرِهِ: تُقَالُ لِلدُّعَاءِ:	وَيْح: تُقَالُ لِلتَّرْحُمِ:

xiii. The entries include two categories that may not be found in the traditional Arabic monolingual dictionary or its bilingual counterpart. These are cases of intensification and Arabic lexical combinations translatable by a single word in English. Asked to intensify a verb or an adjective, the most immediate response of the EFL student and the Arab translator is to use a common adverb such as very or extremely. Yet English employs a vast number of strategies for this purpose including similes and MWU's (for a detailed study of intensification in English, see Abu-Ssaydeh, 2006). Hence, failure to include such equivalents would deprive the dictionary user of a rich lexical source that is part of how the English language operates. Here are some examples to illustrate this point:

أَمْطَرَتْ بِغَرَارَةٍ:

a. to be tipping down (inf) b. to rain cats and dogs (inf) c. the heavens open d. to come down in buckets e. the rain comes down in torrents f. to be coming down g. to be raining pitchforks and plowhandles h. to be raining to beat sixty (spoken) i. it's chucking it down (spoken) j. it rains copiously/ heavily/ prodigiously k. to be pouring l. it streams m. to pelt down

إِنْتَشَرَ كَالنَّارِ فِي الْهَشِيمِ:	بَطَّهَرَ التَّلْجَ:
to spread like a wild fire	pure as (driven) snow
إِنْتَفَضَ بِشِدَّةٍ:	
to quiver/ shake/ shiver like a leaf (inf)	

The second category, Arabic phrases translatable by a single word in English, is equally important and represents a lexical fact long known in contrastive lexicology: languages construct reality in so many distinct ways, one of which is the lexicalization of a concept which may not be lexicalized in another language.

For example, while Arabic has a generic term for hunting and catching fish (both of which are translatable by the word صَيْد), English distinguishes not only between hunting (animals and birds) and fishing but also between hunting by using falcons (falconry) and hunting seals (sealery), all of which are represented by single English words. English also has a single word for عاصِفَة storm, gale, tempest as it does for the Arabic Noun+Adjective combinations عاصِفَة بَرْدِيَّة (hailstorm), عاصِفَة ثَلْجِيَّة (blizzard, snowstorm), عاصِفَة رَعْدِيَّة (thunderstorm) and عاصِفَة رَمْلِيَّة (sandstorm). The dictionary user, particularly one with little knowledge of English or with limited dictionary skills will, in all probability, translate the Arabic phrases by English phrases, thus deviating from a lexical norm established by the English language. It was, therefore, decided that these should be included, though the list may not be exhaustive as this task requires a great deal of research:

أُنْثَى الدُّب: sow	أُنْثَى الْخَنْزِير: sow	أُنْثَى التَّلْعَب: a. she-fox b. vixen
أُنْثَى الْأَيْل: a. a female red deer b. hind	أُنْثَى الْفِيل: cow	أُنْثَى الطَّبْي / الْغَزَال: a. doe b. roe
عَظْمُ الْكَعْب: [تَشْرِيح]: anklebone	إِخْرَاجُ الْقِطَارِ عَنِ الْخَطِّ: derailment of a train	إِخْرَاجُ الشَّيْطَانِ مِنَ الْمَرِيض: exorcism
النَّهَائِيَّةُ الصُّغْرَى: minimum (temperature)	هَبَطَ بِالْمِظَلَّة: to parachute	نَسِيجُ الْعَنْكَبُوت: cobweb

xiv. One sticky point that this author had to deal with was how to distinguish between the different synonyms that are cited as English equivalents to an Arabic entry when these synonyms demonstrate distinctions that are not self-evident to the dictionary user. One way of achieving this was to suggest a methodology that is rather debatable; namely to explain the differences in the denotational meaning in the Arabic component. Take the word قَارِب for example. Against this word we have no less than twenty English equivalents each of which has its own unique properties that distinguish it from the others. It was felt that the best way to deal with this dilemma is to explain the differences in Arabic so that the Arab user can identify which kind of boat he needs to use:

قارب: زَوْرَقٌ مُتَعَدِّدُ الْأَشْرَعةِ: a. bark b. barque	قارب: (ا) مَرْكَبٌ مُسَطَّحٌ يُسْتَخْدَمُ فِي الْقَنَوَاتِ وَالْأَنْهَارِ: a. barge b. narrow boat
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ بِمُحَرِّكٍ: motorboat	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ يَتَّخِذُ بَيْتًا: houseboat
قارب: زَوْرَقٌ يَعْمَلُ بِالدَّوَّاسَاتِ: pedalo	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ خَاصَّةٌ لِنَقْلِ الرُّكَّابِ: (inf) boat
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ لِلنُّزْهَةِ: pleasure boat	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ لِنَقْلِ الْمَاءِ أَوْ الْوَقُودِ: bowser
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ مُسَطَّحُ الْقَعْرِ: pontoon	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ طَوِيلٌ ضَيِّقٌ مُدْبِبُ الطَّرْفَيْنِ: canoe
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ صَغِيرٌ يَتَّسِعُ لِشَخْصٍ وَاحِدٍ: skiff	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ صَغِيرٌ: cockleshell
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ سَرِيعٌ: a. powerboat b. speedboat	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ صَغِيرٌ مُسْتَدِيرٌ يُصْنَعُ مِنْ جُلُودِ الْحَيَوَانَاتِ: coracle
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ مُسَطَّحٌ يُدْفَعُ بِعَمُودٍ طَوِيلٍ: punt	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ صَغِيرٌ سَرِيعٌ: cutter
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ خَفِيفٌ مَطَّاطِي: raft	قارب: مَرْكَبٌ صَغِيرٌ لِلسَّبَاقِ أَوْ نَقْلِ الرُّكَّابِ بَيْنَ السَّفِينَةِ وَالشَّاطِئِ: (foldable racing rubber dinghy)
قارب: طَوَافَةٌ: raft	قارب: نَوْعٌ مِنَ الْقَوَارِبِ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ: dhow
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ مُسَطَّحٌ يُسْتَخْدَمُ فِي الشَّرْقِ الْأَقْصَى: sampan	قارب: زَوْرَقٌ هُوَ عِبَارَةٌ عَنْ جِدْعِ شَجَرَةٍ مُجَوَّفٍ: dugout
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ لِنَقْلِ الرُّكَّابِ مِنْ سَفِينَةٍ كَبِيرَةٍ إِلَى الشَّاطِئِ: tender	قارب: مُعَدِّيَّة: ferry(boat)
قارب: مَرْكَبٌ يُسْتَخْدَمُ عَادَةً لِنَقْلِ الْمَاءِ: watercraft	قارب: جُنْدُول: gondola

We have followed the same approach in dealing with scores of words in the dictionary; in the word كِمَادَة, for example, the different features incorporated in the words cataplasm, poultice, compress, fomentation and pack were culled from major English dictionaries and given in the Arabic senses. It must be acknowledged, nonetheless, that there are limits as to what the BD can do in this regard as such semantic distinctions are not always possible to capture and record consistently, elegantly and systematically in the dictionary. For example, the Arabic word كُفْر is translatable as a. small village b. hamlet. The second of these senses (hamlet) could technically be part of an English village, a settlement comprising a few houses, or, ecclesiastically speaking, one that does not have its own church. There are other dimensions in synonymy that the BD may not always be able to explicitly state either. For example, if we examine the words terror and horror, we will realize that there is a subtle time difference between them; horror arises from something that has already happened whereas terror signifies fear from something that has yet to happen. The word atheism does not carry with it the negative connotations its Arabic equivalent اِلْحَاد does. The word fissure tends to prefer the noun rock as a collocate. The same remark can be made about the word shard which tends to collocate most frequently with pottery and, to a lesser extent, with glass and metal, at least according to major English dictionaries. The English word trepidation usually occurs with the word some, unlike its Arabic equivalent خَوْف which enjoys more collocational freedom. The regional dimension of the words pavement (British usage) and sidewalk (American usage) is totally absent from the Arabic equivalent رَصِيف. These and other differences obtaining between the members of synonyms are facts every translator is aware of and every translated text has to tolerate, but it has to be conceded that the best place for their representation should perhaps be the monolingual dictionary. What future developments in bilingual lexicography can do to address these complexities is a matter of speculation.

xv. The dictionary introduces new headwords based on Arabic combinations that are emerging as compound words, including غَيْر + adjective and قَابِل + adjective:

غَيْرُ شَائِعٍ:	غَيْرُ رَاضٍ:	غَيْرُ تَقْلِيدِي:	غَيْرُ اجْتِمَاعِي:
غَيْرُ شَرْعِي:	غَيْرُ رَاغِبٍ:	غَيْرُ ثَابِتٍ:	غَيْرُ اخْلَاقِي:
	غَيْرُ رَسْمِي:	غَيْرُ حَيٍّ:	غَيْرُ اخْلَاقِي:
	غَيْرُ سَلِيمٍ:	غَيْرُ دَقِيقٍ:	غَيْرُ آمِنٍ:

قابل للإلغاء: abatable	قابل للاستخدام: usable	قابل للاحتراق: a. combustible b. flammable
قابل للتحقيق: realizable (objective)	قابل للتجزئة: divisible	قابل للتجديد: renewable (agreement, contract)
قابل للتفاوض: negotiable (issue, point, position, settlement)	قابل للتداول: a. negotiable (bond) b. passable (currency)	قابل للتحويل: convertible (currency)

xvi. In certain cases where the Arabic word needed to be cited in the plural form due to usage, the existence of some strong collocations, its occurrence in a MWU or any other reason, the word is cited in the plural form:

فُرُسان: (ج) الخيالة:	أَفْنَدَة: (ج) {وَأَفْنَدَتُهُمْ هَوَاءٌ}:	غُيُوم: (ج) مُلَبَّدٌ بِالْغُيُومِ:
فَرَائِص: (ج) ارْتَعَدَتْ فَرَائِصُهُ:	الفارقات: (ج) الملائكة تفرق بين الحق والباطل:	فُرُسانُ المَعْبَدِ / الهَيْكَلِ / الدَّوَابَّةِ:

B. The English component of the dictionary:

i. Different English equivalents are listed separately by means of italicized block English letters and, typically, one or more collocations are cited with them. These collocations have been culled, for the most part, from the Corpus of Contemporary American English and were based on those of the highest frequency. The use of collocations is crucial as the only difference between synonyms sometimes may be collocational and also because they help to contextualize the equivalent and, to some extent, help in disambiguating its sense:

فَسَح: (ف) اِنْسَعَ، رَحَب:

a. (a room) to be or become ample b. (a plain) to be or become boundless c. (a street) to be or become broad d. (a backyard, a hall) to be or become capacious e. (a basement, a house) to be or become commodious f. (a city, facilities) to be or become extensive g. (a foyer, an interior) to be or become large h. (an apartment, a shed) to be or become roomy i. (a backyard, a lobby) to be or become spacious j. (a river, a road) to be or become wide

ضَبَابِيَّة: ضِدَّ وُضُوح:

a. blurriness (of an image, a picture) b. dimness (of memories, recollections) c.

fogginess (of a future) d. haziness (of memories, recollections) e. nebulosity (of an object) f. indistinctness (of a face) g. murkiness (of a connection, a past)

غُظَّة: (ا) غُظَّة؛ غُظَّة: فُجَاجَة، وَقَاحَة:

a. abruptness (of a reply) b. boorishness (of a behavior, a manner) c. brusqueness (of a command, a tone) d. churlishness (of a behavior) e. coarseness (of a behavior, language) f. crudeness (of a comment, a gesture, a joke) g. curtness (of a nod, a reply) h. gruffness (of an answer, a remark) i. indelicateness (of a comment, a question) j. rudeness (of a comment, a person) k. surliness (of an answer) l. uncivility (of an attack) m. uncouthness (of a character)

ii. Dialectal and regional variations are not reflected in the dictionary, but usage or stylistic labels (including currency of the entry, special styles or attitudes) are provided wherever appropriate to indicate the level of formality and the range of usage. The main labels used are (formal), (informal), (spoken), (humorous), (old-fashioned), (literary), (slang), (taboo), (disapproving), (impolite), (offensive) and (vulgar):

غَنِيَّ جَدًّا:

a. made of money (inf) b. worth millions/ a fortune (inf) c. stinking rich (inf) d. rolling in it/ money (inf)

غَيْرُ مَعْقُول: صِفَة الشَّخْص أَوْ آرَأُوهُ:

a. he's living on another planet (spoken) b. what planet is he on? (spoken)

عَاهِرَة: a. working girl (o-f) b. brass (slang) c. call girl d. courtesan e. fille de joie f. harlot g. hooker (slang) h. hustler (slang) i. lady of the night j. prostitute k. scrubber (slang) l. streetwalker (old-fashioned) m. trollop n. whore o. a woman of easy virtue/ ill reputé/ the night (old-fashioned)

iii. English MWU's are used extensively not only to reflect the abundance of this type of lexical units in the English language but also to optimize the lexical resources which the dictionary user can utilize in text production in the TL:

كَلَامُ فَارِغ: مَحْضُ هُرَاء:

a. a load of (old) garbage/ nonsense/ rubbish (inf) b. all my eye and Betty Martin c. don't talk nonsense/ rubbish d. my eye (spoken) e. pure bull (inf) f. fiddlesticks (o-f) g. balderdash h. empty/idle talk i. nonsense j. bilge, tosh and poppycock k.



prattle l. rigmarole m. twaddle (inf) n. cock and bull story o. absolute nonsense/
rubbish

فَلَقِيَ كَثِيرًا:

a. to be (sitting) on pins and needles b. to be in a state (inf) c. to feel on the inside
like a bag of nerves d. to be climbing/ crawling up the wall (inf) e. to be/ get in a
flap f. to be in a cold sweat g. to be pulling/ tearing one's hair out h. to get/ have
one's knickers in a twist (inf) i. to have kittens j. to be worried sick k. to be sick
with worry l. to be on the anxious bench/ seat m. to be on the rack n. to be on a
knife-edge o. to be a bag/ bundle of nerves (inf) p. to be restless as a willow in a
windstorm q. to be sweating buckets/ bullets/ blood r. to get into a sweat (about
sth) s. to break (out) into a sweat t. to be very nervous

بَذَلَ غَايَةً/ قُصَارَى جُهِدِهِ؛ بَذَلَ غَايَةً وَسُعِيَهِ/ وَسُعِيَهِ كُلُّ مَا فِي وَسُعِيهِ:

a. to bend/ lean over backward b. to break one's back/ neck (spoken) c. to do it for
all one is worth d. to do one's utmost/ level best e. to do all in one's power f. to
do what one can g. to go to all lengths h. to go all-out i. to go out of one's way j.
to fight a good fight k. to kill oneself (inf) l. to make an all-out effort m. to make
every possible effort n. to leave no stone unturned o. to put one's best foot forward
p. to put one's back/ shoulder to the wheel q. to pull out at all stops r. to spare no
effort s. to strain every nerve or sinew t. to take pains u. to work very hard

iv. Alternative possible lexical replacements are abundantly given in order to
provide the user with optimal TL lexical options which he can use:

بَذَلَ: (إ) إِعْطَاءً بِسَخَاءٍ:

a. giving freely/ generously/ liberally b. to grant generously/ liberally c. spending
freely

تَتَكَدَّرُ: (ف) تَكَدَّرَ:

to be or become annoyed/ embittered/ displeased/ ruffled/ vexed

عَرَكُهُ الدَّهْرُ/ صُرُوفُ الدَّهْرِ / الأَيَّامُ: حَنَكْتُهُ:

life makes one adroit/ astute/ shrewd/ worldly-wise

v. Where the English equivalents are metaphorical in sense, their collocational range
is exemplified by one or more collocations to emphasize that once a word is used



metaphorically, one of the dimensions that set it apart from its literal counterpart is the change its collocations undergo. Secondly, when two synonyms are used metaphorically, their collocational ranges may partially overlap, but, quite often, they would be distinct. This is an issue where the dictionary user's awareness needs to be increased. The principle of selecting the collocational example(s) here is that it is either of a high frequency or it clearly indicates the metaphorical nature of its collocant.

ضَبَابِي: غَيْرَ وَاضِح:

a. blurry (image, picture) b. dim (memories, recollections) c. cloudy (idea, notion) d. nebulous (object) e. faded (memory, recollections) f. foggy (future, memory) g. hazy (memories, recollections) h. vague (memories, recollections) i. murky (connection, past) j. indistinct (face)

v. Grammatical information is given to reflect the syntactic behavior: prepositions, the status of the adjective (attributive versus predicative), and whether the verb/ adjective takes a sentential object (that S) are listed or reflected:

طَافٍ: (ص) عَائِم:

a. floating (debris, wood) b. (a boat, a yacht be) afloat

طَلَّبَ الرَّحْمَةَ لِي: تَشَفَّعَ لِي:

a. to intercede (for the dead; in favor of; on behalf of sb; over sth; with God, a king) b. to make intercession

عَائِد: (ص) رَاجِع:

a. coming back (from China; to a place; for one's suitcase) b. returning (home; from a trip; to London)

أَخَذَهُ/ دَاخَلَهُ الْعَجَبُ: تَعَجَّبَ:

to be amazed (at; that S; to S)/ astonished (at; by; that S; to S)/ surprised (at; by; that S; to S)

vi. When an Arabic collocation is translatable by an English collocation where several synonyms may be use in a specific syntactic slot, these collocations are cited in the dictionary to emphasize their interchangeability:

blasting/ blustering/ booming/ crashing/ howling/ pealing/ roaring/ رَعْدٌ مُجَلْجَلٌ: هَايِر:
rolling/ rumbling thunder

echoing/ reechoing/ sounding echo: صَدَى مُجَلْجَلٌ:

rebounding/ resounding/ reverberating sound: صَوْتٌ مُجَلْجَلٌ:

a belly/ booming/ hearty/ raucous laugh: ضُحْكَةٌ مُجَلْجَلَةٌ:

neighing/ whinnying horse: فَرَسٌ مُجَلْجَلٌ:

vii. One of the major issues the bilingual lexicographer has to tackle is translation procedures. Unfortunately, this topic, and despite its centrality to bilingual lexicography, has not been satisfactorily dealt with on its own in the literature, though different sets of translation procedures have been proposed by various researchers for various types of translation units. Due to the nature of this paper and space limitations, however, I will focus on a few specific issues, leaving the rest for future research. I shall start by dealing with Quranic words as they represent a very special case in this context then move on to other issues.

The identification of the senses of the Quranic words and, subsequently their translation(s), is not without challenges. To start with, some words are given different interpretations. For example, the word صَوَاع in Surat Yusuf has been interpreted as a measure (i.e. in the sense of صَاع) or a drinking cup. Other interpreters added the material of which the cup was made, with some saying it was silver. صَعُود, another word, has been interpreted either as the name of a mountain in Hell, a rock in Hell, a rock of fire or arduous torment. The same thing applies to the words ضَرِيع , غَسَاق , يَحْمُوم , to mention only a few. Some Quranic words are used in several senses: the word طُوبَى , for example, is used in the senses of a tree in Heaven, Heaven itself and good things. Thirdly, some of the senses in which a given entry is used are very specific. For example, the word صَبِيحَةٌ refers to the last blow in the horn on the Day of Judgment. The word غَلِيظٌ is used to mean intensely painful (torture); الْفَارِِقَاتُ means angels that distinguish between right and wrong; فِطْرَةٌ is a period between two prophets. فِطْرَةٌ , too, is used to mean the right path or Islam. None of these senses are the ones we would expect to find in the regular Arabic monolingual dictionary. Other words rarely occur in Modern Standard such as غَيَابَةُ الْجَبِّ (the dark bottom (of the well)) and فَائِكُهُ in the sense of delighted or happy. Our policy in the dictionary was to include all the senses that the major English translations and dictionaries of the Holy Quran have given. Couplets (namely transliteration and paraphrase) were used in the translation of

proper names and specific Quranic Islamic terms which are likely to be found in English dictionaries:

عاد: (أ) [إسلام]: قَبِيلَةُ هُودٍ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: a. 'Aad b. the name of an ancient Arab tribe that lived in Al-AHqaaf	طُوًى: (أ) [إسلام]: إِسْمُ وَادٍ مُقَدَّسٍ: a. Tuwa b. the name of a sacred valley in Sinai
زَكَاة: (أ) [إسلام]: حِصَّةٌ مِمَّا يَمْلُكُ الْمَرْءُ تُدْفَعُ لِفَنَاتٍ فَقِيرَةٍ مُعَيَّنَةٍ: a. zakat b. a certain proportion of wealth or properties that is paid annually to certain categories of poor people	طور سيناء: إِسْمُ جَبَلٍ: a. Tour Sinaa' v. Mount Sinai b. a mountain in Greater Syria
جِهَاد: [إسلام] قِتَالٌ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ: a. jihad b. fighting in the cause of religion/ in the way of God c. holy war	فَتْوَى: (أ) [إسلام] جَوَابٌ عَنْ مَسْأَلَةٍ شَرْعِيَّةٍ أَوْ قَانُونِيَّةٍ: a. fatwa b. legal or religious opinion c. religious edict
شِيعَة: [إسلام] طَائِفَةٌ إِسْلَامِيَّةٌ: a. Shiite b. an Islamic sect	أَهْلُ السُّنَّة: [إسلام]: a. Sunnites b. Sunnis c. the people who follow the right way/ the ways of the Prophet

Other peculiarly Islamic concepts that are semantically complex but have not been borrowed into English are explained:

طَوَافُ الْإِفَاضَةِ: [إسلام] مِنْ مَنَاسِكَ الْحَجِّ:

circuiting around Ka'aba after returning from Mina To Makka

an Islamic sect that denies predestination

الْقَدَرِيَّة: [إسلام] فِرْقَةٌ إِسْلَامِيَّةٌ:

a period of waiting before a widow or divorced woman can marry عِدَّة: [إسلام]:

The last feature relating to the Quran is that several ayas often quoted in Arabic monolingual dictionaries have also been cited between braces along with their English interpretations:

{ لَا تَأْخُذْهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ } :

a. neither slumber nor sleep may overpower or seize Him b. no slumber can seize Him nor sleep

then they remained firm on the path of Islam { ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا } :

it will never break { لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا } :

{ لَا انْفَضَّوْا مِنْ حَوْلِكَ } :

they would have broken away or dispersed from around/ about you

Now, let us turn to translation procedures. An investigation of the relationship between Arabic and English will show that borrowing has been in both directions, though English has a distinct advantage over Arabic. English has indeed borrowed words from Arabic over the centuries. Some of these have remained distinctly Arabic in their phonology (halal, Kaaba, Makka, kohl, jinn, homos, sheikh and wadi) while others have become almost unrecognizable as of Arabic origin (admiral, guitar, arsenal and jasmine). We are mainly concerned in this paper with the members of the first category. Typically, Al-Murshid translates these as couplets in order to ensure that the sense is clear. Examples include the following words:

كُحْلٌ: (أ) مَا يَوْضَعُ فِي الْعَيْنِ لِلتَّجْمِيلِ أَوْ لِلإِسْتِشْفَاءِ: a. kohl b. a cosmetic preparation for blackening the rims of the eyelid	كُوفِيَّةٌ: (أ) غِطَاءٌ لِلرَّأْسِ شَائِعٌ فِي بَعْضِ الْبُلْدَانِ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ: a. kaffieh b. an Arab headdress for males which consists of a square piece of cloth
عِقَالٌ: (أ) مَا يَوْضَعُ عَلَى الْكُوفِيَّةِ: a. iqal b. headband c. headcord	لُقْمَةُ الْقَاضِي: a. awwama b. sweet delight

But not all culture-specific words, even religious ones, were taken by the English language or can be imposed upon it. Those that did not or cannot, therefore, were given explanations:

مَأْذُونٌ: (أ) كَاتِبُ عُقُودِ الزَّوْاجِ marriage official

أَثَافٍ: three stones on which the cooking pot is placed

الأعراف: [إسلام] سور يَبْنِ الْجَنَّةَ وَالنَّارَ: a wall between Hell and Paradise
مَجُوز: (ا) آلة موسيقية شرقية مكوّنة من زوج من عيدان القصب:

a. double-piped flute b. wind instrument

In some cases, a functional equivalent was provided against a culture-specific word as the most appropriate equivalent for lack of a better procedure; for example the Arabic word صدق was translated as dowry, عِزْبَة as village, عُمْدَة as mayor, جِنِّيَّة as fairy, مجلس الأعيان as the Upper Chamber/ House and شهيد as martyr.

The number of words and expressions taken into Arabic from English, directly or indirectly is fairly considerable. In fact, many words entered the Arabic dictionary directly as borrowings: these include تلفون, كمبيوتر, تكنولوجيا, كليشيه. The translation procedure for such words is straightforward. Furthermore, a fairly large number of English words (particularly business, technical and metaphorical expressions) have found their way as translations into Arabic. Examples here would include موجة (wave (of violence), شفافية (transparency (of government), نطاق (domain), زوبعة في فنجان (subprime mortgage and التخصيص (privatization). Several idioms of English origin have, additionally, been borrowed into Arabic as translations: ذرف دموع التماسيح (to shed crocodile tears), وضع العربّة أمام الحصان (to put the cart before the horse), الكرة في مرمى/ ملعبه (the ball is in sb's court), زوبعة في فنجان (a storm in a teacup, etc. All these have been integrated into the language and their appropriate English equivalents are cited against them.

English has also forced the Arabic language to create new words by falling back onto its own morphological resources; the latest of such examples include مُدَوِّن (blogger), مدوّنة (blog), and تعهيد (outsourcing). Again, these are legitimate words and have to be included in the dictionary along with the English equivalents to which they owe their very existence. Added to these is a very long list of calques that have been imported into Arabic: the cold war: الحرب الباردة; the Iron Curtain: غسيل الأموال; arms control: الحدّ من سباق التسلّح; money laundering: السّتر الحديدي; baseball: كرة القاعدة, etc. Again the procedure here has been to rely on the English source as the correct equivalent.

But the process of proposing interlingual equivalents is a little more complex than that. Let's take the case of MWU's and lexicalized metaphors. Abu-Ssaydeh (2004), for example, prioritizes the procedures one should use for creating equivalents for idioms, beginning with an idiom that corresponds both in lexical constituency and in sense in the TL : في لمح البصر : in the twinkling of an eye; على مرمى حجر : a

stone's throw) and terminating in footnotes. In between, and in the same order of priority, the translator can use an idiom that is equivalent in its sense but not in its lexical constituency *الْكَهْلُ خَيْرٌ مِنَ الْعَمِي* : half a loaf is better than no bread at all), he can paraphrase *وَرَمَ أَنْفَهُ* : to explode with anger), translate the idiom literally *القَشَّةُ الَّتِي قَصَمَتْ ظَهْرَ الْبَعِيرِ* : the straw that broke the camel's back) or use omission, compensation or footnotes. (Of course, the last three procedures are appropriate for translating texts but not for dictionary equivalents). The same principle of ordering may also be applied to lexicalized (or dead) metaphors whereby a SL metaphor can be translated by the same metaphor in the TL *تَبَخَّرَ* : (hope) to evaporate by a different word that may have the same metaphorical sense *صَدَرَ* : dawn (of Islam), a simile *صَفْعَةً* : like a slab in the face), a one-word equivalent *تَبَنَّى* : take (appoint of view) and, finally a paraphrase *عَقِيم* : (of a wind) does not bring rain). (For a detailed analysis of these procedures, see Abu-Ssaydeh, forthcoming). The adoption of these procedures and in the order they are suggested in Al-Murshid aims to ensure that correspondence between the SL and the TL is maximized and that equivalents are as economical and accurate as the lexical resources of the TL would permit. These are just examples of areas where lexicographers - as translators – can poach on research findings in translation theory. And although the latter may not offer “a set of hard-and-fast rules”, it certainly will “...make the translator aware of various factors which are involved in the translation process and offer some principles and guidelines that will help the translator to make certain decisions and choices” (Paluszkiwicz-Misiaczek, 245).

Conclusion

The claim that reliance on the BD will lead to a poor (or word-for-word) translation is unjustified; good translations are produced by good translators who will use the BD as part of an extensive repertoire of tools and skills they will utilize in the production of the target text. The same can be said about the language learner who will need a great deal of exposure to the foreign language before he can tackle the lexical competence demonstrable by the native speaker. However, the BD remains an indispensable tool for both categories of language users.

It is unfortunate that the great strides taken in the field of monolingual dictionaries over the past few decades have not been mirrored in the BD. As a result, the latter has remained largely conventional, restricting its role to that of a repository of words and phrases in one language with their meanings in another. Al-Murshid, however, represents a departure from traditional bilingual lexicography, a risky

step in a discipline that is averse to risk (Atkins 1996). And while this author hopes that the theoretical underpinnings, the proposed methodology and the content of Al-Murshid have remedied, with a certain measure of success, some of the shortcomings of the current Arabic-English dictionaries, he strongly feels that the time is ripe for a change in this sub-discipline. This change should build on advances made in monolingual lexicography; in particular, it should identify a target group of users, use real language data, provide better definitions and/ or equivalents and redesign the BD microstructure so that more relevant material could be included and tapped more easily. The BD must also make maximum use of the lexical resources of both the SL and the TL, the findings of translation theory, theoretical linguistics, foreign language teaching and learning, insights of practicing translators and the tantalizing potential offered by corpus linguistics. These new horizons may necessitate a thorough rethinking of the role of the bilingual dictionary, the typology thus far applied to it and a break with the traditional binary divisions on which that typology is based.

But the prospects of bilingual lexicography should not stop at the threshold of the paper dictionary; with its almost limitless potential and the amazing range of applications it incorporates, the electronic and/ or the online dictionary will enable the lexicographer to significantly expand the range of features he can incorporate in his work. As demonstrated above, the Arabic component of the BD can be a full-fledged searchable monolingual dictionary. The range of collocations for the Arabic entry can be expanded, and collocations given for a certain word in English can be more exhaustive and organized in terms of high frequency on the basis of a large corpus such as the Corpus of Contemporary American English. The bilingual component of the dictionary may even include a network of bilingual collocations for a given Arabic word; the verb and the adjective will contain high-frequency adverbs and nouns, and the noun can be provided with the verbs, adjectives and prepositions that frequently combine with it in the two languages. The English component can also be turned into a monolingual dictionary with all the phonological, morphological, grammatical and usage details such a dictionary may be capable of providing for the user. This will most probably be the next step in bilingual lexicography; and when it happens, it will produce a decoding and encoding tool that will be more formidable than anything we have witnessed thus far. And who knows? Tomorrow may just be around the corner.

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هل المعجم الهجين قابل للتنفيذ؟

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ملخص

شهدت صناعة المعاجم الإنجليزية التعليمية أحادية اللغة قفزة هائلة على مدى العقود الثلاثة الماضية. وعلى سبيل المقارنة فإن محتوى المعجم الثنائي اللغة (وبالتحديد المعجم العربي-الإنجليزي) ومنهجيته بقيتا دون تغيير يذكر. ويؤكد البحث العلمي وخبرة المؤلف المستمدة من تدريس اللغة الإنجليزية والترجمة على الحاجة إلى تطوير هذا المعجم الثنائي اللغة، ليس فقط بسبب عدم كفايته ولكن إلى كونه مصدرا محتملا للأخطاء عند الاستخدام، الأمر الذي لا يتأتى إلا من خلال إجراء تغييرات جذرية على هذا المعجم تخدم احتياجات المترجمين المحترفين من جانب، ودارسي اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية من جانب آخر، ولا تتحقق إلا عبر منهجية جديدة تعين المترجم والدارس كليهما على فهم اللغة وصياغتها بدقة عند الترجمة. وعليه يرى المؤلف بأن المنهجية والمحتوى والأهداف التي يسعى هذا المعجم التعليمي إلى تحقيقها والإمكانات الهائلة التي توفرها المعجمية الإلكترونية تقتضي إعادة النظر في تصنيف المعاجم والمزيد من الاهتمام بهذا النمط الجديد من المعاجم الثنائية.

الكلمات الدالة: معجم، معجمية، ثنائي اللغة، تعليمي، ترجمة، ملامح، اللغة الإنجليزية، اللغة العربية.