

Nida, Eugene A.
Componential Analysis of Meaning
Paris: Mouton, 1975

1. Types of relations between related meanings of different terms

1.1 Inclusion: One word includes the meanings of another: eg. poodle is included in dog.



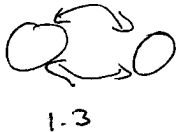
1.2 Overlap: Commonly there is an overlap of meanings: ill/sick. These are treated as synonyms, but almost never substitute for one another in all contexts.

1.3 Complementation: Words that involve a number of shared features of meaning but show certain marked contrasts and often opposite meanings:

1.31 Opposites: polar contrasts good/bad, high/low

1.32 Reversives: reversal of events, tie/untie

1.33 Conversives: reciprocal or opposite view pint buy/sell



1.4 Contiguity: Each meaning is distinctly set off from other related meanings by at least one important feature. Eg. walk, run, hop, skip and crawl constitute a cluster of contiguous meanings

2. Analytical vs. psychological validity of components of meanings. We sometimes "feel" that the basic meaning is x while analytically it turns out to be y. Eg. feel "running" has to do with speed, but in fact on analysis it turns out to be having no foot of the ground at a given instance in a certain type of activities.

3. Approaches to meaning

3.1 Extensionalist: see words in their contexts

3.2 Intensionalist: analyse the contour of words as in componential analysis.