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The use of a specialized aviation corpus (COPAER) to build a Bilingual Online Multimedia Learner's Aviation Glossary - BOMLAG

This presentation aims to introduce the corpus based Bilingual Online Multimedia Learner's Aviation Glossary or BOMLAG. The BOMLAG project presents a set of theoretical and practical elements that will lead to the building of a collaborative online multimedia interface and to the establishment of a methodology for creating glossaries for specific users from specialized corpora. Based on these elements we intend to present the prototype of a collaborative bilingual online multimedia glossary (English – Portuguese) for students of Aeronautical Sciences (BOMLAG) which thereafter may be available online to institutional users or marketed to other universities and institutions that have interested in training pilots.

An applied project in nature, this research is based on a perspective that emphasizes the use of language in real specialized communication, having in mind the needs of a specific user. For this reason, the methodology does not take a prescriptive perspective, but rather seeks to understand and describe the terminology of an area identified in real contexts and in systematized corpora collected for this purpose. It is, therefore, carried out from the confluence of methodological principles suggested by Terminology (Cabreì & Sager, 1999), terminography, lexicography (Atkins & Rundell, 2008), specialized pedagogical lexicography (Fuertes, 2010) and (Fuertes, O. P. A., & Arribas-BanPo, A., 2008), and corpus linguistics (Gillard, P., & Gadsby, A., 1998) and (Milton, J., 1998). More specifically, it is a descriptive study, based on a specialized written corpus (operations manuals of large aircraft) from which term candidates, definitions and contexts will be extracted and then arranged in an online interface. Further information will be added to the glossary based on the profile and needs of users (students of Aeronautical Sciences). In order to achieve the general objective stated, the project will be developed in five stages: (i) design, (ii) planning, (iii) development, (iv) adequacy, and (v) socialization of knowledge.

This product will be implemented in test version and will be hosted on a server with free internet access. Besides the features already exemplified, the glossary will also contain: (i) tips for using the term in different situations and constructions, (ii) exercises / individual activities, (iii) space for posting of additional questions that learners can have on the term or terminological focus on each entry, (iv) space for the posting of contributions to the construction of the entry in the same format found in collaborative dictionaries and encyclopedias like wikdictionary and wikipedia (v) space for the posting of terms or terminological units that were not covered in the glossary. These latest posts will generate new entries, which, somehow, is also an element of cooperation from the users.

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