

Introduction

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**Lexicology, Semantics and Lexicography: Selected papers
from the Fourth G. L. Brook Symposium, Manchester,
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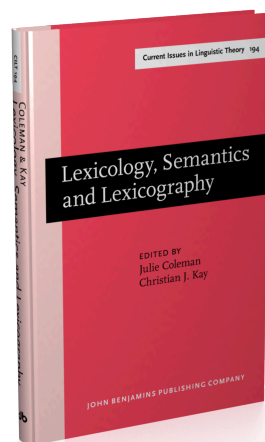
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Introduction

These papers were originally presented at the 10th International Conference on English Historical Linguistics (10ICEHL), held at the University of Manchester from August 21–26, 1998. They formed part of the Fourth G.L. Brook Symposium, which consisted of a day and a half of papers on Historical Semantics, Lexicology and Lexicography, followed by a workshop on electronic resources.

The papers, we hope, show both the breadth and the depth of current studies in the field. In keeping with the ICEHL tradition, they exemplify a willingness to engage with relevant issues in theoretical linguistics, as well as the detailed and meticulous scholarship characteristic of philology. Two points stand out particularly. The first is the impact of prototype theory and cognitive approaches generally in lexical studies. The second is the very positive effects of the remarkable range of electronic resources now available to historical linguists, notably corpora, dictionaries, bibliographies and thesauruses. These are important both quantitatively, in the amount of data they make available, and qualitatively, in the versatility of their searches.

We have enjoyed editing this volume, and would like to thank everyone who made it possible, including the ICEHL conference committee, and especially David Denison, for suggesting the Brook Symposium in the first place and helping to bring it to fruition. We would also like to thank the Department of English and American Studies at Manchester (and indeed the late G.L. Brook himself) for financial support. Thanks are of course due to our contributors for their patience and co-operation, and to the anonymous reviewers who refereed the papers. Our editor Anke de Looper helped to smooth the final stages. And a special thank you is owed to Ian Hamilton at Glasgow University, who mastered the intricacies of the style-sheet and prepared the manuscript.

Julie Coleman
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24/9/99

