

Student
information
guide

to LEXICOLOGY

1. What do you need for the course?

- a reasonably sized English-English dictionary
- a folder
- A4 paper for taking notes and for photocopying materials handed out by the teacher
- enough safe-copies for filing photocopied materials and your notes
- pens with coloured ink, felt pens or markers
- a pencil and an eraser

2. Attendance

It is one of the rules that students should attend classes regularly. This rule in LEXICOLOGY class exists so that you can benefit fully from your course. Those who fail to attend **80%** of lessons will not be assessed together with other students, which means delay and embarrassment.

3. What do you do if you are ill?

If you are ill, or have to be away from class for a different but equally serious reason (your marriage, problems at home or the like), you must let your teacher know about it preferably beforehand or ask somebody to do it for you.

Please make sure you know the assignment and have copies of handouts or any other material that was used in class.

Hand in your assignment as soon as you are back to the class.

Negotiate with your teacher the way in which you can make up for the missed lessons.

4. Homework

You will be regularly given homework to complete after class.

This homework is set in order to

- help you get the most out of the course,
- compensate for the lack of materials in the university library,
- spare you the anxiety of looking for materials while getting ready for pre-examination and examination.

Assignments will include selected readings from resource materials, and finding examples of the studied lexical items in dictionaries and authentic texts (newspaper and magazine articles, fiction, textbooks and resource books, travel brochures, etc.).

Students might be requested to answer pre-set questions about their reading, suggest their titles for the parts of the selections, write summaries, etc.

Homework is an essential part of the course assessment so you are expected to hand in your assignment on time.

5. Tests

Written tests are regularly given to students to assess their academic development. They will cover the material studied in class and given as home assignment.

Written tests will contain practical tasks, e.g.

- matching,
- gap filling,
- completing crosswords,
- odd-one-out,
- grouping lexical items,
- giving simple explanations of lexical items, etc.

Final test will contain the tasks demanding lengthy pieces of connected writing of about 50-60 words, with students' own examples of the lexical items in question, as well as practical tasks of a higher level of difficulty than that of tests offered during the terms.

Final test might contain the following tasks types, e.g.

- providing definitions of key terms
- explaining the difference between certain lexical items/groups of items,
- suggesting basis for grouping given lexical items,
- continuing given lists of lexical items and providing explanations for doing this.

6. Course research paper

You are expected to carry out a micro-research (*course research*) related to the course, during the second semester of the academic year, write a paper on it (*course paper*) and make a presentation at the end of the year at the examination.

Topics will be offered to you at the beginning of the 1st semester but they can also be self-initiated.

You will have a chance to discuss your coursework with your teacher either in class or at a specially arranged time.

The *aim* of the course research is to make students demonstrate their ability to apply the knowledge they accumulate, and skills they acquire during the course while carrying out research work in the field of vocabulary study.

Course research will include

- looking for lexical items in the authentic texts,
- selecting examples to illustrate the chosen topic,
- analysis of the selected examples.

Course research will result in writing a *course paper*.

Course paper should contain the following:

- statement of its aim ,
- brief description of the phenomenon chosen for study (150 - 200 words),
- selected examples of lexical items in context (20 - 25),
- suggestion(s) for classifying them,
- alphabetical list of the selected items.

Course paper will be presented at the examination.

Presentation should consist of a brief critical commentary of the research and the paper, i.e. include the following:

- ◆ explanation of what a student was attempting to do and how s/he set about it
- ◆ some comments on particular features of the work,
- ◆ statement of the difficulties the candidate might have encountered.

Time allocated for presentations should not exceed **10** minutes per candidate.

Students should be ready to answer questions about their work, and defend their point of view. Question time is *not* included into the presentation time.

Guidelines for assessing course paper presentation

Marks	Description of performance
6 marks	<p>High quality work; original in execution; available technology used to good effect; well structured work; competent analysis of the selected lexical items supplied with adequate basis for analysis; a range of approaches to the material.</p> <p>Fluent presentation; handling relevant terms with ease; sensitive commentary on the completed work.</p>
4 marks	<p>Evident effort to complete the work; eligibly hand-written work with all required components present; attempt to analyse selected lexical items; reasonable basis for analysis.</p> <p>Fluent presentation with occasional use of relevant terminology; sound commentary on the completed work</p>
2 marks	<p>Some worthwhile pieces of work; carelessly hand-written work; not all required components present; no attempt to explain the undertaken analysis of the selected items; not enough material for analysis.</p> <p>Limited use of vocabulary; lack of relevant terminology; fairly superficial commentary on the completed work.</p>