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В практикуме рассмотрены такие вопросы лексикологии, как структура слова, этимология словарного состава английского языка, словообразование и словосложение, семасиология, омонимия, синонимия и антонимия современного английского языка, фразеологические единицы и словосочетания, основы английской лексикографии и др. Практический материал, предназначенный для самостоятельной работы и работы на семинарах, тесно увязан с теоретическим материалом лекций. Приложение содержит справочный материал, необходимый для выполнения упражнений.

Практикум предназначен для студентов, обучающихся по программам высшего профессионального образования по направлениям подготовки 035700.62 Лингвистика, 032700.62 Филология, профиль Зарубежная филология при изучении дисциплин «Лексикология», «Основы теории первого иностранного языка».

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Preface

This book has an aim to assist the students of foreign language departments in their study of the fundamentals of Modern English Lexicology. The book is based on the course of lectures in English Lexicology and fully meets the requirements of the programme in the subject. It includes the material about the English word and its structure, about the complex nature of the word's meaning, about homonyms, synonyms and antonyms, phraseological units, lexicography and some other aspects of English lexicology.

Each chapter of the book contains some theoretical problems to be discussed, the list of definitions of the main notions to remember, practical tasks for seminars and independent work to be analyzed and a brief list of recommended literature. In appendices students will find supplementary materials intended for gaining additional information about the vocabulary resources of Modern English, stylistic peculiarities of its vocabulary, word-building elements. Students are also given the list of questions for revision and a self-assessment test which will help them to prepare for the exam in the course of English lexicology.

The authors hope that the book will help students to be word-conscious, to be able to guess the meaning of words they come across from the meanings of morphemes, to be able to recognize the origin of this or that lexical unit.

1 General Problems of the Theory of the Word



1.1 Consider your answers to the following.

1. The object of Lexicology.

The theoretical and practical value of English Lexicology.

2. Links of Lexicology with other branches of linguistics.

3. Vocabulary as a system. The notion of lexical system.

4. The approaches to language study.

5. The word as a fundamental unit of language.

6. Methods of linguistic analysis.

1.2 Remember the following definitions.

Lexicology – is a branch of linguistics which deals with the vocabulary of a language. It is concerned with words, variable word-groups, phraseological units, and with morphemes which make up words.

Vocabulary of a language – is the total sum of its words.

General lexicology – is a part of general linguistics; it is concerned with the study of vocabulary, irrespective of the specific features of any particular language.

Special lexicology – is the lexicology of a particular language (e.g. English, Russian, etc.); devotes its attention to the description of the characteristic peculiarities in the vocabulary of a given language.

Lexical system – is a coherent homogeneous whole constituted by interdependent elements of the same order related in certain specific ways.

Diachronic approach to language study deals with the origin, change and development of the words in the course of time.

Synchronic approach to language study describes the vocabulary as it exists at a given time.