

ONLINE ARABIC-ENGLISH-ARABIC SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES

REIMA AL-JARF

ABSTRACT

This study analyzed a sample of online Arabic-English-Arabic specialized dictionaries of the Arabization Center in Morocco, the Arabic Language Academy in Cairo, the Saudi Terminology Databank (BASM), School Arabia glossaries, Dictionary Bay, and Babylon, to identify their entry design, entry components, breadth of coverage, whether they include the most recent terms, accuracy of translational equivalents and inclusiveness of meanings given. The study revealed several shortcomings of those online specialized dictionaries such as limited coverage, inaccuracy and inclusiveness of some meanings and slow up-dating. Some recommendations are given to improve the practicality and usefulness of online Arabic-English-Arabic specialized dictionaries to translation students.

Keywords: Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries, Online dictionaries, Internet dictionaries, specialized dictionaries.

1. INTRODUCTION

Internet dictionaries are becoming increasingly popular among learners and teachers. More than 70% of students interviewed at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University use e-dictionaries more often than traditional bulky paper products (Lan, 2005). Faculty members at the English Department, King Saud University use printed dictionaries the most, followed by online dictionaries, electronic device dictionaries, and dictionaries on CDs. Monolingual dictionaries were found to be more accessed than multilingual dictionaries, mini-dictionaries were more accessed than encyclopedic dictionaries, and multi-field dictionaries were more accessed than single-field dictionaries. Meaning and textual information were the most obtained information in online dictionaries (Abouserie, 2010).

Compared to hard-copy dictionaries, Internet dictionaries are characterized by ease of access and quick searching. They are regularly and easily updated. They are useful in areas where there is rapid terminological growth, because new words can be added to them faster than hard-copy dictionaries (Storrer & Freese, 1997). EFL Learners, teachers and translators can effortlessly access a wide variety of electronic dictionaries well suited to a multiplicity of lookup operations (Rizo-Rodriguez, 2010).

Despite the uncountable number of Internet dictionaries in all languages and subject-areas, a review of the literature has shown few studies that focused on Internet dictionaries. For example, Rizo-Rodriguez (2010) gave a concise description of the treatment of syntax

and semantics in online English monolingual dictionaries. de Schryver (2003) reviewed, listed and compared 182 dictionaries for 117 African languages available on the Internet.

Like other languages, a multitude of specialized Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries compiled by Arabic organizations, academies, Arabization centers, and individuals are available online. Such dictionaries are of ultimate importance for students majoring in Arabic-English-Arabic translation at the College of Languages and Translation (COLT), King Saud University, Saudi Arabia who take 6 interpreting courses and 18 translation courses in 18 subject areas: Engineering, medicine, physical sciences, media, Islamic studies, business, military, humanities, sociology, commerce, education, politics, agriculture, literature, petroleum, computer, security, law, in addition to a translation project. The students always face challenges with new English and Arabic terms that are being coined and rapidly spread through the media and Internet as a result of technological, scientific, social, economic and political developments. Results of an exploratory study with 187 students majoring in translation at COLT showed that students have difficulty understanding words that they hear on satellite TV such as *depleted uranium, privatization, federal and confederal governments, money laundering, Polisario, technocrats, genocide, mass graves and ethnic cleansing*. They feel frustrated when they cannot find a new term, when a new meaning is not included or when an inaccurate equivalent is given by the dictionary. They ask their instructors to recommend a good online dictionary where they can find accurate equivalents to emerging technical terms. To help both translation students and instructors evaluate currently available specialized online dictionaries and provide information on the usefulness of such dictionaries for translation, the present study aims to examine a sample of online Arabic-English-Arabic specialized dictionaries to identify their entry design, entry components, breadth of coverage, how up-to-date they are, i.e., whether they include the most recent terms, accuracy of translational equivalents and inclusiveness of meanings given.

2. DICTIONARIES: DEFINITIONS AND TYPES

According to the Webster's Online Dictionary, a dictionary is: (i) A reference source in print or electronic form containing words usually alphabetically arranged along with information about their forms, pronunciations, functions, etymologies, meanings, and syntactical and idiomatic uses; (ii) a reference book listing alphabetically terms or names important to a particular subject or activity along with discussion of their meanings and applications; (iii) a reference book listing alphabetically the words of one language and showing their meanings or translations in another language. The first definition applies to general dictionaries, the second applies to specialized dictionaries and the third applies to bilingual dictionaries.

Bergenholtz, Duva & Tarp (1995) classified specialized dictionaries into: (i) Multi-field dictionaries that broadly cover several subject fields such as business (covering economics, accounting, management and others together); (ii) Single-field dictionaries that narrowly cover one particular subject field such as engineering; (iii) Sub-field dictionaries that cover a single field such as educational technology, idioms or constitutional law.

As for online dictionaries, there are three types: (i) Hand-held; (ii) dictionaries on CD-ROM, and (iii) dictionaries on the Internet. Internet dictionaries are also categorized into: (i) Dictionaries available by subscription, (ii) dictionaries in the public domain because they are out of copyright or are unfinished products such as Webster's and Roget's Thesaurus, and (iii) collaborative projects in the process of construction by contributing users (Nesi, 1998).

من ١٠ الى ١٠ من مجموع ١٧ مصطلح			
المجال	عربي	فرنسي	انجليزي
التقنيات التربوية	مهارات تقنية	habiletés techniques	technical skills
التقنيات التربوية	تقنية	technique	technique
الفنون الاشكالية	تقنية	technique	technique
	(تقني)(الوسائل التقنية التي بستخدمها الفنان والتي تحطيه شخصيته المسئله)		
الاقتصاد	نقل عكسي للتقنية	transfert inverse de technologie	reverse transfer of technology
الصحة وجسم الإنسان	تقنية	technique	technique
الاقتصاد	نقل المعرفة التقنية	transfert technologique	technological transfer
الاقتصاد	بطالة تقنية	chômage technologique	technological unemployment
الاقتصاد	تقنية	technologie	technology
التجارة والمحاسبة	جوهر التقنية	technologie mécullaire	core technology
التجارة والمحاسبة	مواصفات تقنية (منحرف عليها)	caractéristiques techniques	design standards

- البنية الهيكلية
- معاجم موحدة جديدة
- العمل المعجمي و
- المصطلحي
- المعاجم الموحدة
- انشطة المكتب
- دورية اللسان العربي
- قائمة منشورات المكتب
- للاتصال بنا
- للاشتراك

Webpage (1): Entry Page from the Arabization Center Dictionaries

3. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The present study examined the content of 6 Internet (online) specialized Arabic-English-Arabic dictionary hubs: (i) The Arabization Center in Morocco; (ii) Arabic Language Academy in Cairo; (iii) Saudi Terminology Databank (BASM); (iv) School Arabia; (v) Dictionary Bay; and (vi) Babylon.

A sample of English and Arabic terms such as *aphasia*, *globalization*, *system*, *technique*, *technical*, *confederal*, *federal*, *fighters*, دولة اتحادية، تعاھدية، شركة قابضة. شركة ذات مسؤولية، تقني محدودة، مشير، مدفع رشاش، مقاتلات، تطهير عرقي، مقابر جماعية، تعددية عرقية، تقنية، نقانة، تقني محدودة، مشير، مدفع رشاش، مقاتلات، up in each. The following aspects were examined: Entry design, entry components, whether

the term is available, number of meanings given, accuracy of equivalents, contexts, domain, pronunciation, grammatical information given, derivatives and their meaning, explanatory equivalents, illustrative examples, typographical, linguistics and spelling errors and how up-to-date the content is. Results of the analysis are reported qualitatively below.

5.1 Dictionaries of the Arabization Center in Morocco¹

The Arabization Center in Morocco was established by the Arab League Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ALESCO). It hosts 35 dictionaries covering Linguistics, general and nuclear physics, math and astronomy, music, chemistry, health and human body, history and archaeology, biology, geography, business and accounting, renewable energy, vocational and technical education, humanities (philosophy, sociology, education and anthropology), law, petroleum, environment, mechanical engineering, fine arts, communication, journalism, educational technology, meteorology, tourism, seismology, hydrology, information technology, remote sensing, marine sciences, electronic war, food technology, genetics, pharmacy, civil engineering, anatomy and civilization (home economics). In addition, 9 specialized dictionaries are currently in progress: General lexicon, educational policies, semiotics, adult education, special education, curriculum and instruction, early childhood education, physical education, and educational administration.

4. RESULTS

The dictionaries are not regularly updated. Two of those dictionaries were compiled in the 1980's, 21 in the 1990's and 10 after 2000. The typical dictionary has 2828 terms, with a range between 846 and 8846 terms. The dictionaries are trilingual: Arabic-French-English. The entries are arranged in tables with 4 columns for the domain, Arabic term, English term and French term respectively. Headwords are listed in the rows. When an Arabic term is entered, equivalents are given without a context, the meaning is not explained in Arabic, English or French (See Webpage 1).

5.2 Dictionaries of the Arabic Language Academy²

The Arabic Language Academy in Cairo hosts a collection of specialized Arabic-English-French dictionaries in more than 20 subject-areas. Headwords are displayed in a bulleted alphabetical list, with equivalents given in the second row, and an explanation or definition given in the third row. Entries are color-coded: headwords are marked in blue, equivalents in red and definitions in grey (see Webpage 2). When multiple equivalents are given, the search engine does not tell in which dictionary, nor which discipline it is used. I found 18 English equivalents for "تقنية, i.e. *technology*". However in each of the 18 equivalents, تقنية was confused with "technical" and was mistranslated as "technique" not 'technology'. I did not find other derivatives such as "تقانة". Terms are given in phrases or compounds that show the contexts in which the term is used as in علماني التعليم، دولة علمانية، جمعية علمانية، مدرسة علمانية. However the contexts given are not inclusive. I did not find common expressions as "تأصيل العلوم & التأصيل الإسلامي". There are some errors such as "كلسانيات" not "لسانيات, i.e. *linguistics*"; "معلوماتيات" not "معلوماتية" as an equivalent to "informatics". Although,

¹ Website: <http://www.arabization.org.ma/Standarddesdictionnaires.aspx>

² Website: <http://www.arabicacademy.org.eg>

the dictionaries cover multiple disciplines, the coverage is limited. Recent derivatives of some Arabic terms are not given.

5.3 The Saudi Terminology Databank (BASM)³

It is a multilingual Arabic-English-French-German specialized terminology databank that contains 460,000 terms in 214 sub-fields created by King Abdul-Aziz City for Science and Technology in Riyadh. The BASM dictionaries can be either independently searched by selecting the domain in the searching page or can be all concurrently searched.

Terms and equivalents are listed in tables with 6 columns for the Term code, domain, Arabic term, English, French, German equivalents. Headwords are listed one per row. BASM specifies the domain and context in which each equivalent is used. However, equivalents are sometimes given in one language and missing in others and meanings are given in some domains and missing in others (see Webpage 3). The gaps might be due to ongoing additions to the database.

As for coverage and accuracy, BASM gives the equivalent to " محرك بحث " *i.e. search engine*" in GIS but not *Internet search engines*. 'System' has 181 contexts with Arabic equivalents given in medicine, nutrition, biology and zoology, but not those used in computer science and physics. Some equivalents are also inaccurate. Like the Arabization Center and Language Academy dictionaries, BASM confuses *techniques*,

The screenshot shows the BASM website interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with navigation links: 'معجم لغات القرآن الكريم', 'معجم المصطلحات العلمية', 'معجم الأسماء', 'معجم قرارات الجمع', and 'هذه الصفحة هي لظرة'. The main content area displays search results for the term 'paragenesis'. The results are organized into sections with Arabic and English labels. The first section is 'كلمة البحث هي: تأصيل' (Search term is: Etymology). The second section is 'قائمة البحث هي: All'. The third section is 'paragenesis' with the Arabic label 'تأصيلٌ تناليمٌ' and the definition: 'تأريخ تكون المعادن أو مجموعاتنا في الطبقات المعينة.' The fourth section is '(morphogenesis (genetic)' with the Arabic label 'تأصيلٌ أشكال السطح' and the definition: 'النحت في أصول أشكال تكوينات سطح الأرض ويتطورها.' The fifth section is 'genotypical language' with the Arabic label 'لغة تأصيلية' and the definition: 'لغة الباحث عندما يفسر الظواهر مجدداً على المفروضات construct فهي اللغة المستخدمة في التفسير، في مقابل اللغة التي تهدف إلى الوصف. انظر: لغة وصفية (لغويين).' The sixth section is 'genesis of minerals' with the Arabic label 'تأصيل المعادن' and the definition: 'تفسير العمليات التي تتكون بها المعادن وترتبط عائلاً - وليس في جميع الأحوال - بطريقة تكون الصخر المتخوي على هذه المعادن.' The seventh section is 'generic description' with the Arabic label 'وصف تأصيلي' and the definition: 'دراسة وصفية لأشكال السطح على أساس أصل بنائها وتكوينها. ويستخدم هذا المصطلح بصفة خاصة في الدراسات الجيومورفولوجية.' The eighth section is 'تأصيل' (Etymology) with the Arabic label 'شركات التأصيل (شركات الرسملة)'. On the right side of the interface, there are three buttons: 'لجان الجمع', 'المجمعون', and 'المجلس الحالي'.

³ <http://basm.kacst.edu.sa/>

Webpage (2): Entry Page from the Arabic Language Academy Dictionaries *technical & technological*. There are spelling mistakes such as منشآت الطاقة النووية instead of منشآت.

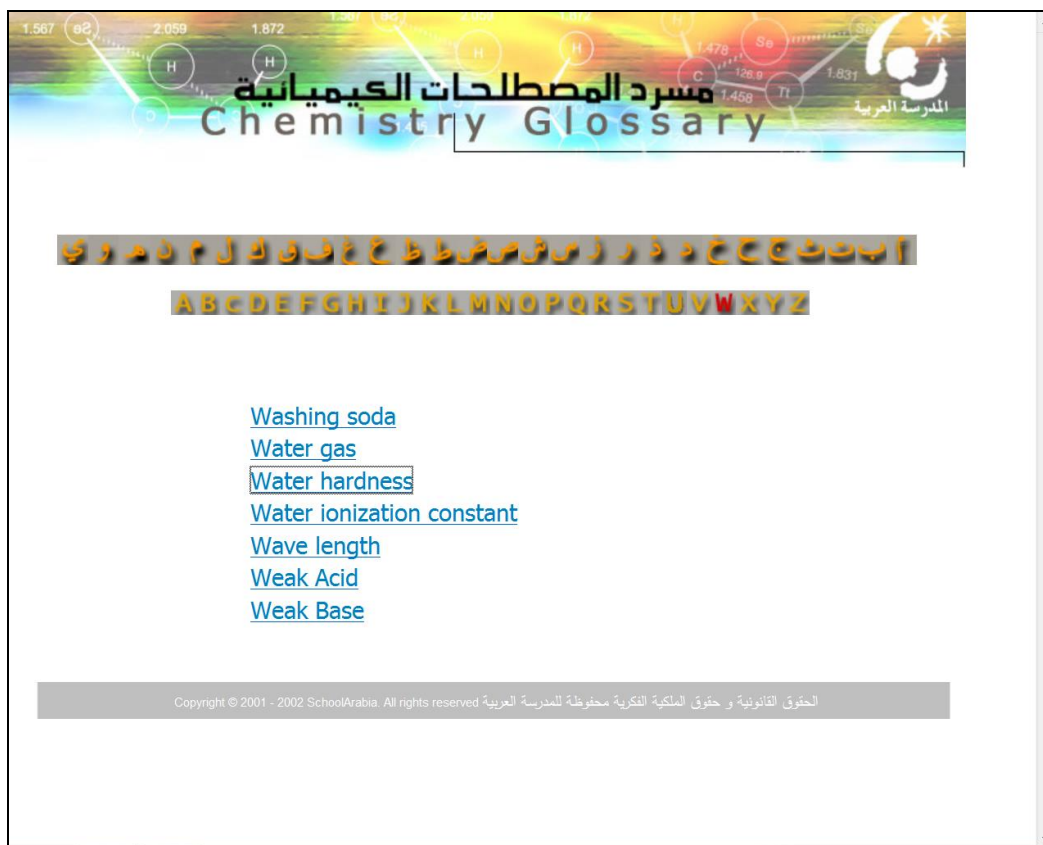
	Groupe propulsion	Propulsion system	هندسة الغشاء والطيران	٣٦٨٤٢٥	
	Motoriste	Propulsion system manufacturer	هندسة الغشاء والطيران	٣٦٨٤٢٦	
	Appareil vestibulaire	Vestibular system	هندسة الغشاء والطيران	٣٦٨٥٤٢	
	Systeme sensori-moteur	Sensori-motor system	هندسة الغشاء والطيران	٣٦٨٧٠٦	
Sicherheitsbehälter mit Druckabbausystem	enceinte de confinement a suppression de pression des BWR	containment vessel with pressure suppression system of BWRs	... وعاء إحتواء مع نظام إخماد الضغط من نوع "ب" و "ر"	منشآت الطاقة النووية	١٣٦٨٢٤
		System DSN	DSN	الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات	٤٧٢٣٠٣
		Microsoft Disk Operating System	Microsoft Disk Operating System	الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات	٤٦٩٨٠٦
		Windows System Resource Manager	Windows System Resource Manager	الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات	٤٧١٧١٤
statische *Netzstabilität		Steady-state stability of power system	إنتران إستقراري لنظام القدرة	نقل القدرة وهندسة الكيبلات	١٢٤٤٦١
		Post billing system	إجراء تسليم الفاتورة بعد شحن البضاعة	عام	٣٣٨٦٩٢
Systemgenerierungsprozedur	Procedure de generation de systeme	System generation procedure	إجراءات لتوليد برنامج النظام	برمجيات	١١٦٥٢١
		spinning reserve of a system	إحتياطي التدويم لنظام	منشآت الطاقة النووية	١٣٠٣٢٨
Berlagerungsphase des systems	Recouvrement de systeme	System overlay	إحلال النظام	برمجيات	١١٦٥٤٠
Systemprüfung	Essai du systeme	System test	إختبار النظام	برمجيات	١١٦٥٦٦
		Remote computing system consistency errors	أخطاء إنساق نظام معالجة بعد	عام	٣٣١٦٣١
		Remote computing system syntactic errors	أخطاء في تركيب الجمل أو في إعرابها موجودة في برنامج جهاز طرفي	عام	٣٤٠١٨٧
		Failure alarm system	إحفاق نظام التحذير	الوقاية من الاشعاع	٤٨١٢٨٠
				... ١٢٣٤٥٦٧٨٩١٠	

Webpage (3): A BASM Entry Page

5.4 Glossary from School Arabia⁴

School Arabia is a web-based knowledge establishment based in Jordan. It is a hub for a comprehensive Chemistry, Computer and Meteorology sub-field glossaries. Each glossary has an Arabic and an English alphabetical term index. When a letter is clicked, all terms beginning with that letter appear in a list. Clicking on a term, 2 entries appear per page. Each includes the source term, its equivalent, and an encyclopedic definition. Headwords and their equivalents are color-coded (see Webpages 4, 5 & 6).

⁴ http://www.schoolarabia.net/kemya/general_chemistry/glossary/index.htm



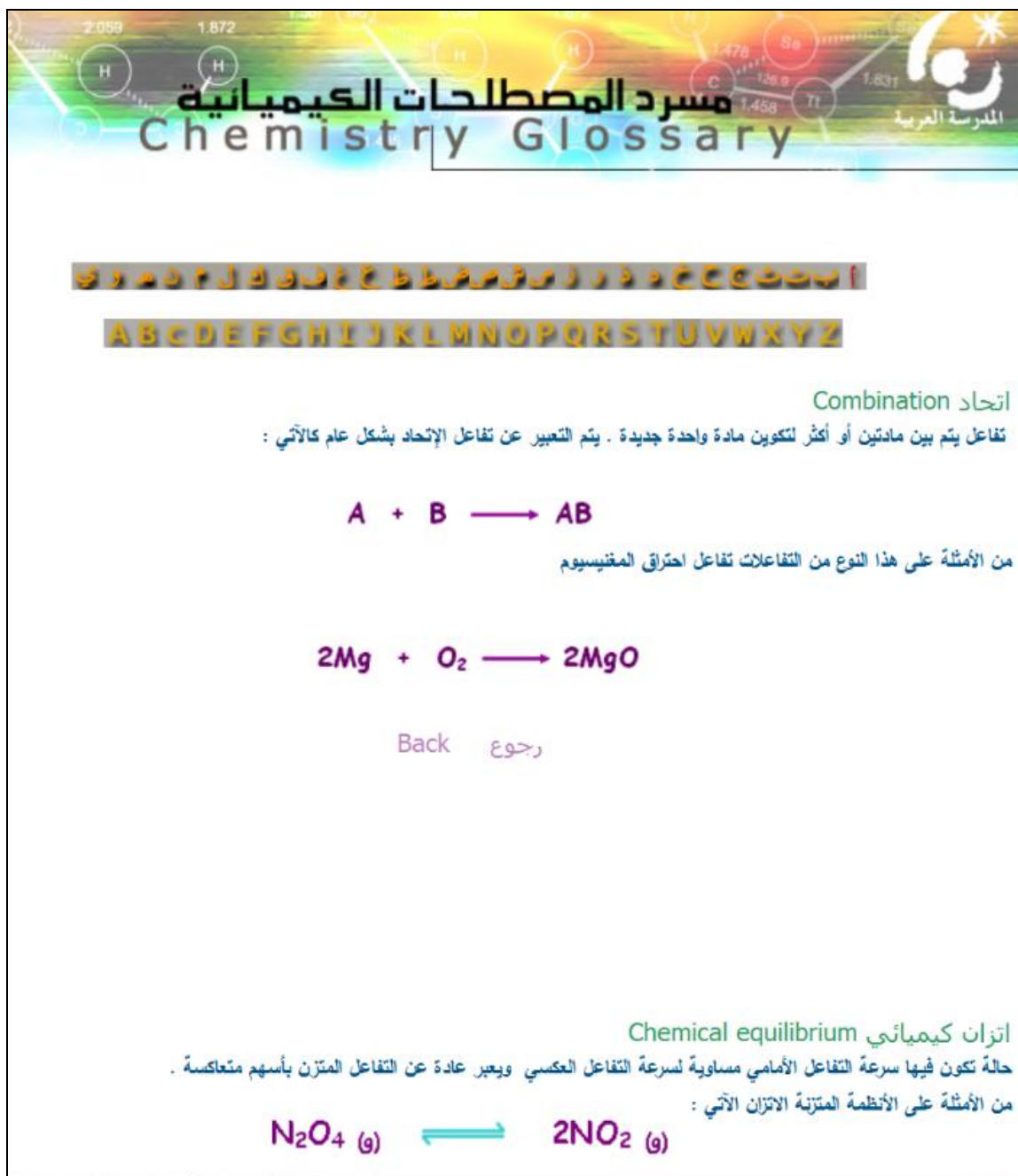
The screenshot shows the header of the 'مسرّد المصطلحات الكيمياء Chemistry Glossary' website. Below the header, there are two rows of index letters: the first row contains Arabic letters from 'أ' to 'ي', and the second row contains English letters from 'A' to 'Z'. A list of English terms is displayed in the center, each with a blue underline: 'Washing soda', 'Water gas', 'Water hardness', 'Water ionization constant', 'Wave length', 'Weak Acid', and 'Weak Base'. At the bottom, a copyright notice reads: 'Copyright © 2001 - 2002 SchoolArabia. All rights reserved محفوظة للمدرسة العربية الحقوق القانونية و حقوق الملكية الفكرية'.

Webpage (4): English Term Index and Term List from School Arabia Glossaries



The screenshot shows the same header as the previous page. Below the header, there are two rows of index letters: the first row contains Arabic letters from 'أ' to 'ي', and the second row contains English letters from 'A' to 'Z'. A list of Arabic terms is displayed on the right side, each with a blue underline: 'كاره للماء', 'كافنديش', 'كافين', 'كاوتشوك', 'كحول', 'كحول أولي', 'كحول ثالثي', 'كحول ثانوي', 'كحول مطلق', 'كربوهيدرات', 'كربيد الكالسيوم', 'كروماتوغرافيا', 'كروماتوغرافيا العمود', and 'كرة باكي'.

Webpage (5): The Arabic Term Index and Term List from School Arabia Glossary



المدرسة العربية

موسد المصطلحات الكيمائية
Chemistry Glossary

أ ب ت ث ج ح ذ ر ز س ص ط ظ ع ف ق ك ل م ن و د ي

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

اتحاد Combination

تفاعل يتم بين مادتين أو أكثر لتكوين مادة واحدة جديدة . يتم التعبير عن تفاعل الإتحاد بشكل عام كالآتي :

$$A + B \longrightarrow AB$$

من الأمثلة على هذا النوع من التفاعلات تفاعل احتراق المغنيسيوم

$$2Mg + O_2 \longrightarrow 2MgO$$

رجوع Back

اتزان كيميائي Chemical equilibrium

حالة تكون فيها سرعة التفاعل الأمامي مساوية لسرعة التفاعل العكسي ويعبر عادة عن التفاعل المتزن بأسهم متعاكسة .
من الأمثلة على الأنظمة المتزنة الاتزان الآتي :

$$N_2O_4 (g) \rightleftharpoons 2NO_2 (g)$$

Webpage (6): An Entry Page School Arabia Glossaries

5.5 Dictionary Bay⁵

It hosts 16 specialized dictionaries. Terminology in each dictionary is accessed and searched independently by clicking the dictionary of interest. Only equivalents used in one domain are given. Searching for 'Aphasia', the equivalent term is displayed without definitions, synonyms or compounds showing contexts and domains. Coverage is too limited. Equivalents to many terms such as "field marshal, genocide, mass graves, قاذفة قنابل، التطهير" are lacking. Some equivalents are inaccurate. "Fighter" was

⁵ http://www.dictionarybay.com/milit_ea_e.aspx

translated as "مقاتل، مقاتل"، not "مقاتلة ومقاتلات". Other equivalents of "fighter" such as "مقاوم للمرض مثلا" are not listed (See Webpages 6 & 7).

Dictionarybay
ركن المعاجم المتخصصة
[Français-arabe](#) [Español-árabe](#)

English-Arabic (other language combinations to come)

Al-Awwal Dictionary	قاموس الأول
Dictionary of Radio and TV	قاموس مصطلحات الإذاعة والتلفزيون
Dictionary of Film & Theater	قاموس مصطلحات السينما والمسرح
Dictionary of Journalism	قاموس المصطلحات الصحفية
Printing Dictionary	قاموس مصطلحات الطباعة
Dictionary of Political Terms	قاموس المصطلحات السياسية والدبلوماسية
Legal Dictionary	قاموس المصطلحات القانونية
Dictionary of Economics	قاموس الاقتصاد والتجارة والمال
Oil Dictionary	قاموس مصطلحات النفط
Statistical Dictionary	قاموس الإحصاء
Dictionary of Library Terms	قاموس مصطلحات المكتبات

هل سيصل سعر الذهب إلى \$2000 في 2012؟

Webpage (7): Specialized Dictionaries from Dictionary Bay

Enter a term below with no space after:
holding company

English-Arabic	<input type="button" value="Partial"/> <input type="button" value="Exact"/>
Arabic-English	<input type="button" value="Partial"/> <input type="button" value="Exact"/>

MBA Online School
Specialised MBA Degree, Top London School,
12 Months Fast-track, Apply!
StudyInterActive.org/Online-MBA

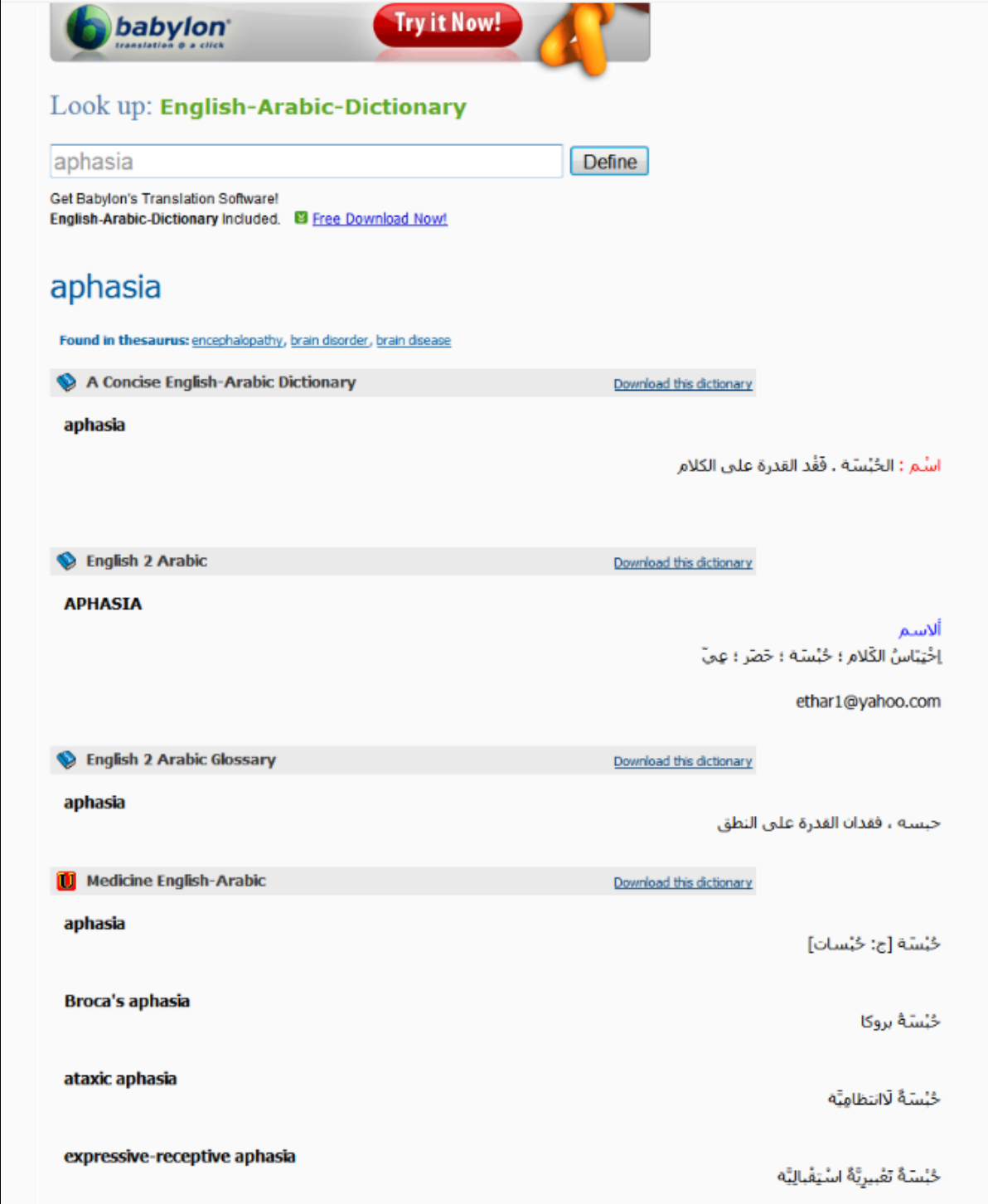
English	Arabic
holding company	شركة قابضة
holding company	شركة قابضة، شركة الشركات
personal holding company	شركة قابضة شخصية
security holding company	شركة ضمان قابضة

Copyright © All R

Webpage (7): Entry Page from dictionary Bay

Webpage (8): The Babylon 9 Alphabetical Letter Index

Webpage (9): The Babylon Translation Page



The screenshot shows the Babylon online dictionary interface. At the top, there is a logo for 'babylon translation @ a click' and a 'Try it Now!' button. Below the logo, the text 'Look up: English-Arabic-Dictionary' is displayed. A search box contains the word 'aphasia', and a 'Define' button is next to it. Below the search box, there is a promotional message: 'Get Babylon's Translation Software! English-Arabic-Dictionary Included. Free Download Now!'. The main entry for 'aphasia' is shown, with a sub-header 'aphasia' and a definition in Arabic: 'اسْم: الخُتْسَة . فُقْد القدرة على الكلام'. Below this, there are several dictionary sources listed, each with a 'Download this dictionary' link. The sources include 'A Concise English-Arabic Dictionary', 'English 2 Arabic', 'English 2 Arabic Glossary', and 'Medicine English-Arabic'. Each source provides a different definition or translation of 'aphasia' in Arabic. For example, 'English 2 Arabic' defines it as 'أَلْأَسْم [خُتْسَة الكَلَام ؛ خُتْسَة ؛ خَصَر ؛ عَيّ ethar1@yahoo.com]'. 'English 2 Arabic Glossary' defines it as 'حِسَة ، فِقدان القدرة على النطق'. 'Medicine English-Arabic' defines it as 'خُتْسَة [ج: خُتْسَات]'. 'Broca's aphasia' is defined as 'خُتْسَة بروكا'. 'ataxic aphasia' is defined as 'خُتْسَة لَانْتِظَامِيَّة'. 'expressive-receptive aphasia' is defined as 'خُتْسَة تَفْهِيْمِيَّة اسْتِقْبَالِيَّة'.

Webpage (10): A Babylon Entry Page.

5.6 Babylon⁶

Babylon 9 is a commercial Translation Software that features 75 languages and over 2,000 dictionaries among those Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries in *dentistry, economics, auditing, Bible names, currency codes, countries, a glossary of birds and an automotive glossary*.

Babylon dictionaries have an alphabetical letter index. When a letter is clicked, all the terms beginning with that letter are listed. Clicking on a term, Arabic equivalents are given together with synonyms, a definition and/or an explanation and the dictionary where each equivalent can be found. Babylon also provides the part of speech, plural form, and uses diacritics to show pronunciation. Related compound terms are also displayed in the same page as sub-entries that show the domain and context in which the term is used, together with their Arabic Equivalents.

A term can be also looked up using the Babylon translation software, where it is entered in the left window and after selecting the language pairs, the equivalent appears in the right window together with a definition of the term in the target language. Unlike the dictionary, only one equivalent is displayed. No synonyms and compounds are given (See Webpages 8, 9, 10).

5. DISCUSSION

The present study revealed several shortcomings of online Arabic-English-Arabic specialized dictionaries such as limited coverage, inaccuracy and inclusiveness of some meanings. Findings are consistent with other studies in the literature conducted with hard-copy dictionaries. For example, Mansour (2010) found that some of the Arabic translations of appraisal adjectives in Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries are misleading, as they do not reflect the full information of the word. Fareh & Moussa (2007) reported that English-Arabic dictionaries were a potential source of error for Arab learners while translating English metaphorical expressions into Arabic, as those offer inadequate help to translators in terms of providing equivalents to metaphorical expressions. A dictionary also posed problems of syntactic complexity, idiomaticity and cultural specificity for EFL learners due to inappropriate explanations and examples Amritavalli (1999). Similar shortcomings were also reported by English Department faculty in Saudi Arabia which included: Ignoring new terms, required illustration, incomplete information, limited coverage, false information, not being up-to-date and inaccessibility (Abouserie, 2010).

6. CONCLUSION

To help translation students and instructors access all kinds of online specialized Arabic-English-Arabic dictionaries, the study recommends that all single-field specialized dictionaries be conglomerated in a single location, as in the *OneLook Dictionaries*. A team of subject-area specialists, lexicographers and linguists should collaborate to constantly update the content and make sure equivalents are accurate and inclusive. Collaborative and interactive dictionaries can be also created to ensure a fuller, more accurate coverage. An alphabetical term index can be added. All compounds, derivatives, parts of speech, an

⁶ Website: <http://translation.babylon.com/english/to-arabic/English-to-Arabic-Medical-Dictionary/>

encyclopedic definitions should be included in the entries. These improvements would increase the usefulness of online dictionaries to translation students.

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