The Internet: an opportunity for (new) dictionary makers and users

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The Internet has made dictionaries trendy!

Special thanks to V. Lannoy (IDM) for pointing me to the Google Trends website and sharing his views with me!
100 most ‘sociable’ domain names on Facebook

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Actions sociales (milliers)</th>
<th>Partages (milliers)</th>
<th>Likes (milliers)</th>
<th>Commentaires (milliers)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youtube.com</td>
<td>593 891,3</td>
<td>208 405,4</td>
<td>224 227,8</td>
<td>161 258,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vimeo.com</td>
<td>15 911,8</td>
<td>6 759,1</td>
<td>4 818,8</td>
<td>4 333,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wordreference.com</td>
<td>13 313,3</td>
<td>10 722,6</td>
<td>1 234,5</td>
<td>1 356,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koreus.com</td>
<td>9 954,4</td>
<td>4 250,7</td>
<td>3 092,0</td>
<td>2 611,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Google.com</td>
<td>6 625,6</td>
<td>3 538,5</td>
<td>1 291,6</td>
<td>1 795,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter.com</td>
<td>5 946,8</td>
<td>1 451,9</td>
<td>3 358,3</td>
<td>1 136,5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Le Journal du Net, 21/09/2011

- **Word Reference rocks!**
- **The most complete multilingual dictionary online!!**
- **Me ayudan muchísimo en mi trabajo de traducción!**
WordReference.com

- Dictionary portal
  - Multifunctional dictionaries
  - Monolingual and bilingual dictionaries
- Bilingual content
- Focus on phrases
  - ‘Compound forms’
  - Language-pair specific forums
- Collaborative
- Web2.0 success story in new “making-and-doing culture” paradigm (Gauntlett, 2011)

Lannoy (2010)
NLP & future of e-dictionaries

- Researchers
  - Word-sense disambiguation
  - Machine translation
  - ‘Prototypes’
- Publishers and editors
  - Cut the costs!
    - NLP-based data need to be checked / validated
    - Invest in R & D !!!
A bright online future for dictionaries!

- Collaborative lexicography
  - Make better dictionaries?
    - WordReference.com vs. Wiktionary.org
  - An opportunity for lesser-resourced languages (cf. Prinsloo, forthcoming)
    - isiZulu.net
- Publication of research-led dictionaries
  - ARTES, DicoInfo, LEAD, Transpoetika (cf. Granger/Paquot, forthcoming)
  - Ordnet.dk (Trap-Jensen, 2010)
  - ...
Fishing out the online dictionary user

- Who are the users of online dictionaries such as WordReference.com?
  - Surveys (cf. Müller-Spitzer et al, yesterday afternoon)
- Dictionary use research and Web 2.0
  - Facebook, Twitter
Not a great time for dictionary publishers but a very exciting time for lexicography!

Many thanks for your attention!
References

Looking up ‘dictionary’ in 4 ‘old-school’ online dictionaries …

dictionary (plural dictionaries) noun

A dictionary is a book in which the words and phrases of a language are listed alphabetically, together with their meanings or their translations in another language. n-count

...a Welsh-English dictionary.

dictionary plural dictionaries countable

1 a book that gives a list of words in alphabetical order and explains their meanings in the same language, or another language:

a German-English dictionary

Thesaurus entry for this meaning of dictionary