Lexicography

It is used in two different senses:

* Practical Lexicography

* Theoretical Lexicography
* **Practical Lexicography**: the art or the craft of writing dictionaries.

* **Theoretical Lexicography**: the theory or scholarly discipline of analyzing & describing dictionaries.
What’s Dictionary?
1- It’s a list of words with their definitions.
2- It’s a list of characters with its glyph (symbol).
3- A list of words with corresponding words in other language.

**Note:** sometimes also it provides pronunciation information, word derivations, histories, illustrations, usage guidance & examples in sentences.
1- What’s Monolingual Dictionary?
2- What’s Bilingual Dictionary?
3- What’s Encyclopedic?
4- What’s Compact Symmetrical?
5- What’s Asymmetrical Bilingual?
1- What’s Monolingual Dictionary?
a dictionary giving equivalent words in only one language.

2- What’s Bilingual Dictionary?
a dictionary giving equivalent words in two languages.
3- What’s Encyclopedic?
A comprehensive reference work containing articles on a wide range of subjects or on numerous aspects of a particular field.

4- What’s Compact Symmetrical?
"Reflection" (or "Mirror")
Structure of Dictionary

1. **Macrostructure:** Overall structural organization of volume.

- front matter, introduction, user guidelines.
- body, entries, definitions & typically organized alphabetically.
- end matter- appendices & additional information as personal names & places.
2. **Microstructure:** Internal structure entry blocks

- headword
- spelling
- pronunciation
- part of speech
- semantic specification (senses & reference)
- cross-references to related items
- collocations
- usage with example
- etymological or historical notes
Nature of Headwords:
- A headword, head word, or sometimes catchword is the word under which a set of related dictionary or encyclopaedia entries appear.
- The headword is used to locate the entry, and dictates its alphabetical position.
- It’s orthographic word surrounded by spaces.
- Phonological word- sequence of sounds.
- Lexeme- item of vocabulary.
* What’s Lexeme?
- The fundamental unit of the lexicon of a language. *Find, finds, found, and finding* are forms of the English lexeme *find*.

- Headword is typically a citation form of lexeme.
Entry Order

*Dictionary of alphabetic languages list words in alphabetical order.* With *non-alphabetic languages* it may be different. The order in a dictionary with ideographic entries such as Chinese character is often troublesome (*Why?*) because each character has different readings.
Types of Dictionary

http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/advdicts/types.htm