

The Last Word on Words. Lectures on English Lexicology. Morozova Nataliya. Moscow: University Book, 2010. 178 p. ISBN 978-5-91304-152-4

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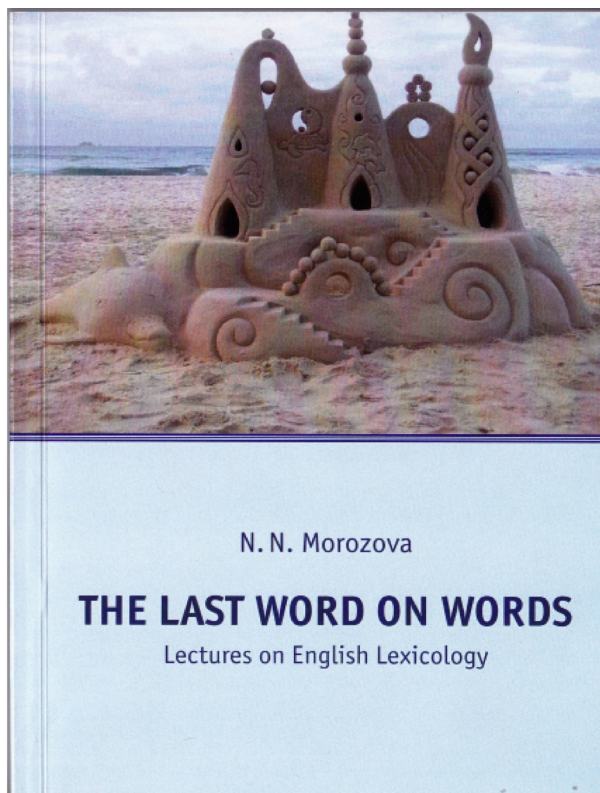
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The book under review is based upon the course of lectures delivered by the author for a number of years. It is an information-packed and up-to-date survey of the problems crucial to the understanding of what the modern English lexis is. It has a remarkable advantage over other books on English lexicology available now because its structure and the way the main issues are discussed fit in with the modern paradigm of linguistic knowledge.

Unlike most books on lexicology, "The Last Word On Words" does not begin with the notions of the linguistic sign and kinds of linguistic meaning, but introduces the readers to the pragmatic function of language and describes it in terms of idiolect, dialect and discourse. It stresses the importance of lexicology knowledge for efficient communication and helps students understand the link between language as a sign system and speech as the ocean of various language occurrences.

Everything that is dealt with in the book is well structured and its parts go well together. The book comprises fourteen lectures which fall into seven parts which cover different subjects in English lexicology. The content is presented concisely. There are no tedious explanations. The text relies on clear examples to highlight the issues described. Each part is supplied with a list of suggested reading which contains additional resources including Internet resources.

I particularly appreciate the part devoted to metaphor and metonymy. It is an informative step-by-step approach to revealing both cognitive and linguistic nature of these phenomena. Explanation is



lucid and there are brilliant examples borrowed from various types of contemporary discourse.

Overall, the book is well thought-out and usefully organized, with a highly readable presentation and carefully chosen examples to introduce and illustrate the major concepts. No doubt, it is of great benefit to students of the English language.