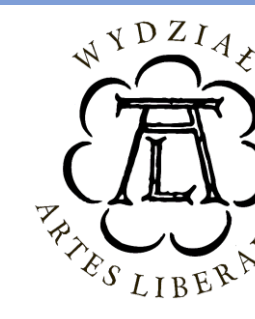


Codification and rethinking the Polish language as a "native language" from the perspective of online dictionaries, language portals and selected social media profiles



dr hab. Ewa Rudnicka ■ University of Warsaw ■ Faculty of Artes Liberales



Introduction

For all people, language is extremely important both a cognitive tool and a communicational tool. Everyone instinctively attaches their attention to its quality and effectiveness. The Internet era gives us new opportunities to commonly practice the habit of supervision and looking after the language condition.

Purpose of the study

- review of the basic Internet resources devoted to the Polish language and its correctness
- the analyses of the content of Internet resources
- reflection on the importance of normativism and linguistic diversity

Research questions

- What is the role of language users in creating Internet sources devoted to the Polish language?
- How does the Polish discourse about errors and correctness evolve across the XXI century?

Data source, data collection

Different sources with general information and popular science comments about the Polish language for the average native user.

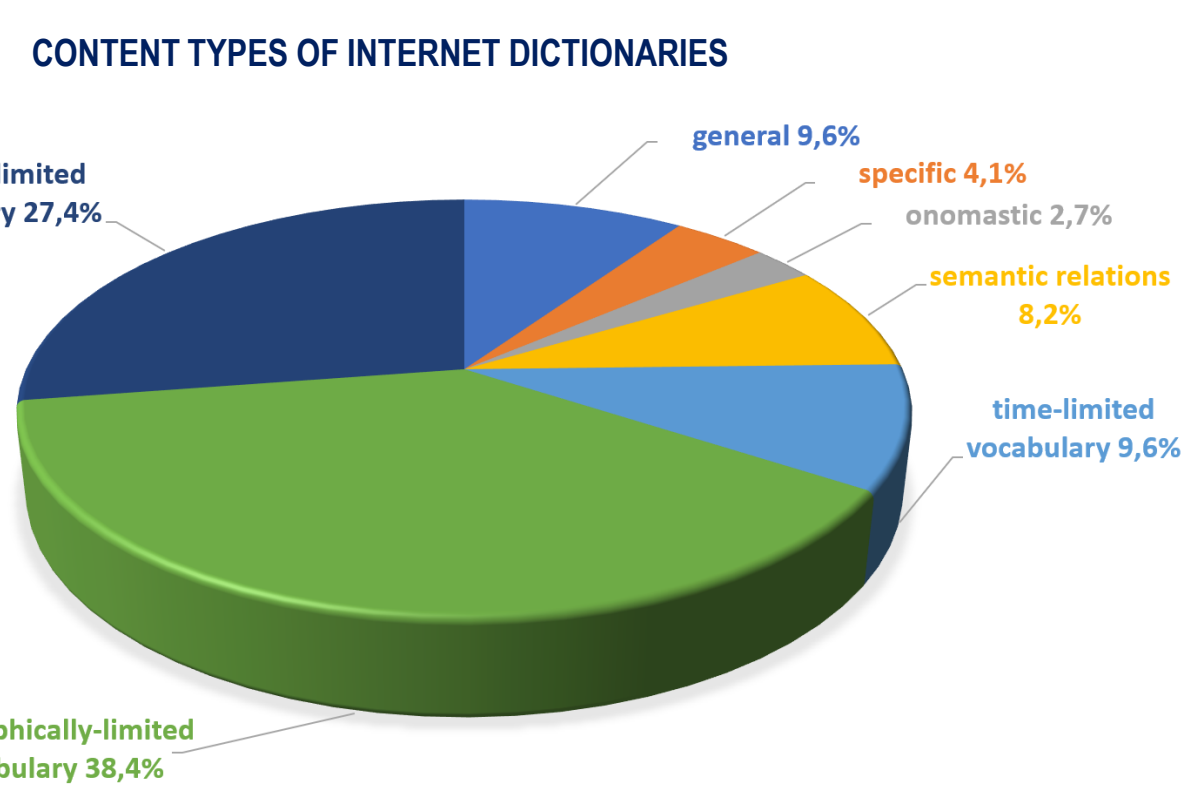
Methods

- focus internet query
- qualitative and quantitative content analysis of the materials
- multimodal data analysis (visual content & textual information)

Findings

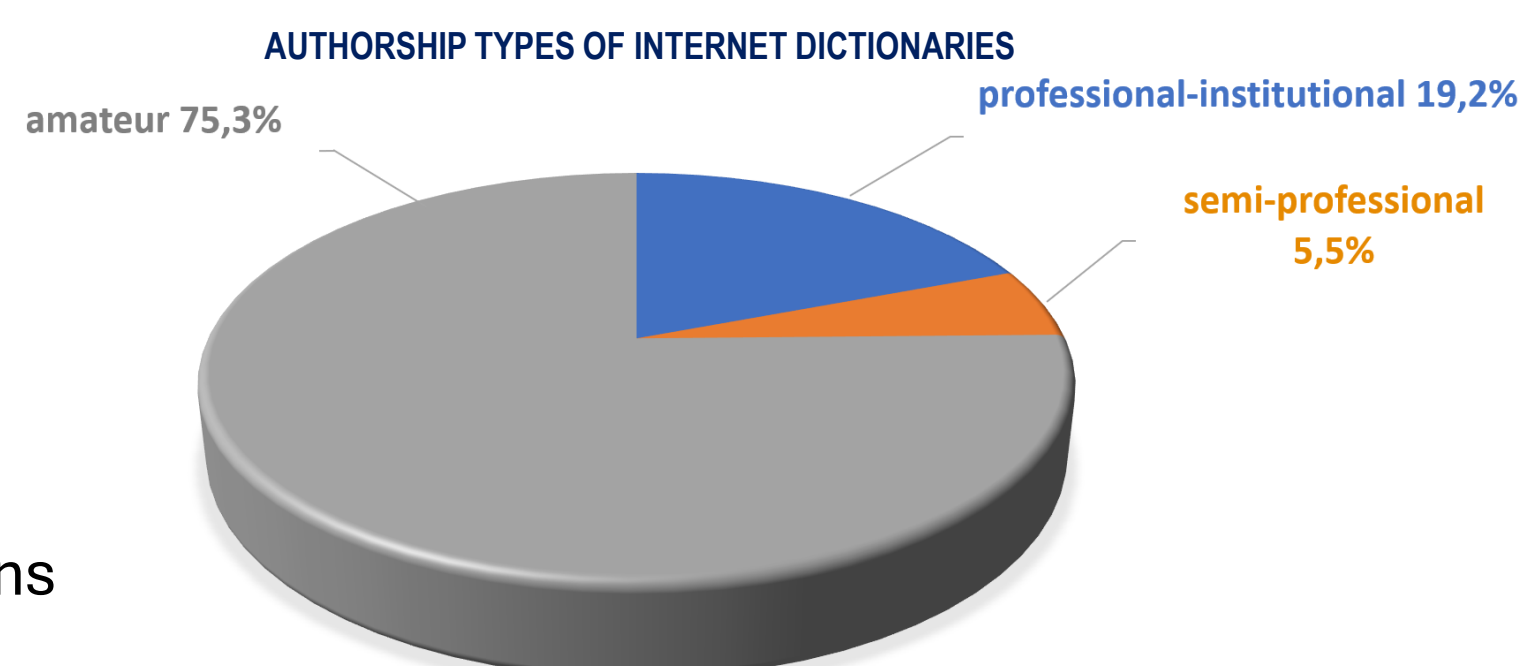
Dictionaries:

- There are over 70 dictionaries found.
- The region in which vocabulary is the most often described is Poznań (Greater Poland), but it happens that dictionaries refer to the language of one small town or village.
- Among dictionaries with socially limited vocabulary the most popular are dictionaries of youth dialect and hunting dialect.
- The dictionaries prepared by amateur users are rather small and they are known only in local society.
- The most popular and commonly known dictionaries are big general dictionaries prepared by institutional scientific professionals, such as *The PWN Dictionary of the Polish Language* (<https://sjp.pwn.pl/>) or *The Great Dictionary of the Polish Language* (<https://wsjp.pl/>).



Language clinics:

- There were found 13 Polish language clinics.
- They usually function as internal institutions within universities and answer specific questions received from different native users.
- There are only a few commercial clinics, but they don't share their material. The exception is the clinic of PWN Publishing House.
- Thanks to the sorting material by the authors we know what kind of linguistic issues are the most investigated by common Polish users.



Language portals:

- We can find only a few language portals, but there are dozens of websites or blogs devoted to the Polish language.
- Generally, on the portals, we can find information about new words and phenomena, and sometimes we can buy books or gadgets concerning language or order the "language service".
- Blogs are usually written by senior academics and are devoted mainly to particular words, and their normative or historic aspects.

Language posts on social media profiles:

- Many people, especially young women working as copywriters or language proofreaders, have professional profiles where they write about language, especially about its correctness.
- There were gathered over 2000 posts available on Instagram, prepared by 172 different authors. An additional query on Facebook and Twitter was also made.
- What catches the eye is pointing out the errors, and even a kind of stigmatization of the errors. Errors are often clearly marked.
- It shows that types of pointed errors and types of questions sent to clinics concern similar problems.

Conclusions

- The basic issues described in Internet statements about the Polish language are linguistic errors and correctness.
- The types of errors pointed out on the profiles and types of questions sent to clinics concern similar problems.
- Pointing out the errors is typical behavior of Polish. It's the consequence of historical circumstances of the evolution of the Polish language and the contemporary education system.
- People realize the diversity of the Polish language and they like it and want to preserve this.
- The linguistic norm is a natural human need.
- In some cultures, due to historical conditions, the need for language norms is stronger. Polish culture is one such example.
- Further analysis of the material will be carried out with using automatic methods of text analysis with tools provided by CLARIN-PL (<https://ws.clarin-pl.eu/>).

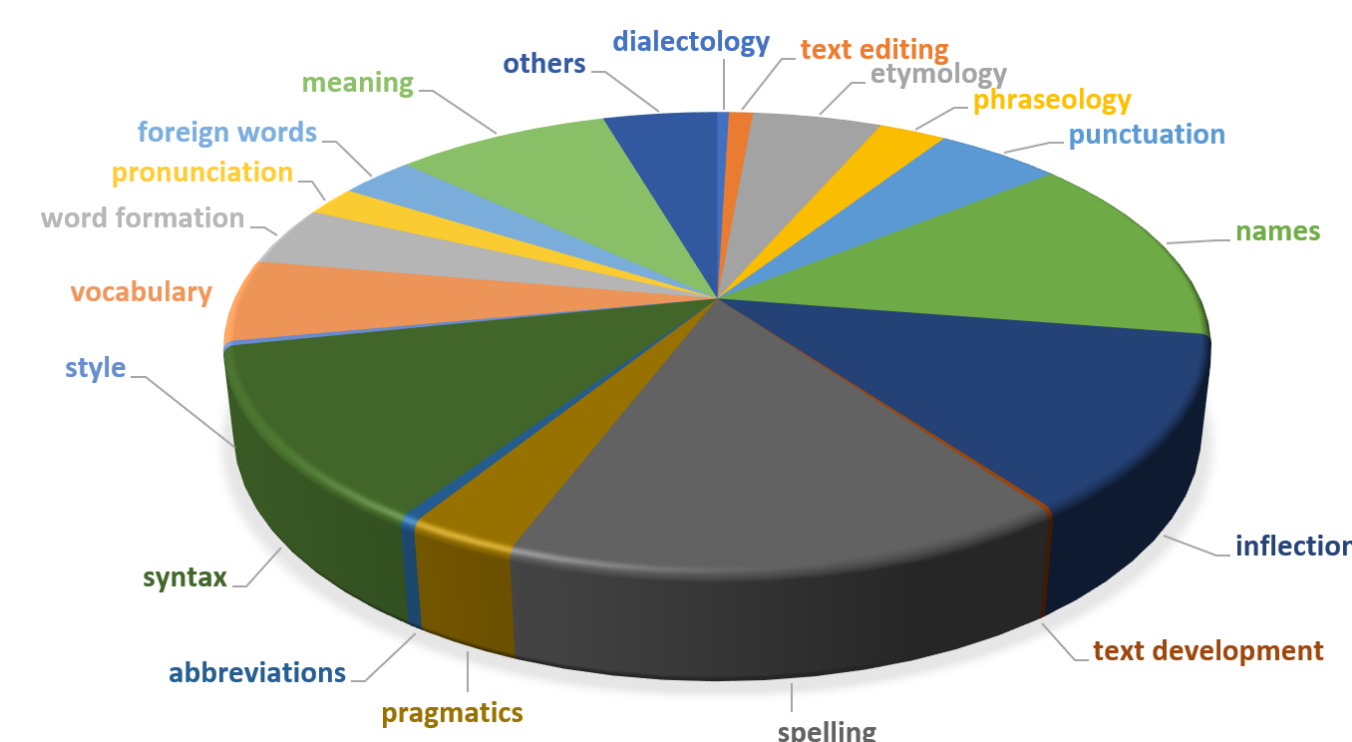
Language clinics and the types of issues they discuss

ISSUE	PWN	UŚ	UG	UL	UW	UWr	UZ	UJD	PWSZChelm	UJK	sum
1 spelling	2686	592	628	262	182	120	100	42	49	28	4689
2 names	2400	439	571	185	133	100	50	93		36	4007
3 inflection	1697	333	638	339	173	201	64	92	164	33	3734
4 syntax	2539	336	150	308	199	61	9	68		38	3708
5 meaning	1650	264		194	137	83	149	69		5	2551
6 vocabulary	1283		106		18		72	107	109	26	1721
7 etymology	779	332		104	54	237	24	2			1532
8 punctuation	994	198	96		88	53	17	17	10	13	1486
9 others	594	164		306	95	136	19	5	36		1355
10 word formation	708	139	162	115	87	33	4			6	1254
11 pragmatics	610	231	22		33		10	11		6	923
12 foreign words	715	90		19	37	24					885
13 phraseology	415	133	42	67	28	38	34	7	31	2	797
14 pronunciation	358	69	26	90	32	15	10	12	9	1	622
15 text editing	253				31						284
16 abbreviations	121				22					1	144
17 dialectology	123				5	6					134
18 style	73				22						95
19 text development	53										53
	18051	3320	2441	1989	1376	1107	562	525	408	195	

Instagram posts and the types of errors

ISSUE	sum
1 spelling	423
2 syntax	221
3 syntagmatics	196
4 vocabulary	161
5 inflection	131
6 punctuation	92
7 meaning	73
8 pronunciation	39
9 incorrect classification	31
10 typo	25
11 word formation	20
12 pragmatics	9
13 style	5

GENERAL PERCENTAGE SHARE OF ISSUES DISCUSSED IN LANGUAGE CLINICS



GENERAL PERCENTAGE SHARE OF ERRORS STIGMATIZED IN INSTAGRAM POSTS

