

Lexicographical Data workshop at Wikimania 2018

results and follow-up



WIKIMANIA
CAPE TOWN

Context

- Wikimania 2018 in Cape Town
- 1 hour workshop, following a 30 min presentation of the project
- 25 participants
- Broad diversity of profiles (languages, experience with Wikidata)

Goals

- For participants: getting more familiar with the interface, add Lexemes in their favourite languages
- For the dev team: gather feedback, find bugs, issues, ways to improve the interface

Method

After a very short introduction, participants worked by pair in autonomy during 40 min. Léa and Lydia were facilitating and answering questions. During the last minutes, participants gave feedback about the workshop.

Editor

- Go to Special:NewLexeme
- Create a word in your favorite language
- Improve it by adding statements and Forms
- Create other Lexemes or items if needed
- Explore the interface

Observer

- Take notes on a pad
- Describe what the editor is doing
- Describe the problems
- Help the editor if necessary

after 20 min: switch roles



Findings General

- **Users were not sure what to do:** they asked for more information/guidance of what they should do. Suggestions, example of a fully filled Lexeme...
- Some vocabulary, like “representation” was unclear
- Need for searching existing Lexemes
- Need for automation of certain actions

Findings Language-related issues

- Only the first character is saved in Tamil ([T200329](#))
- Some languages like Finnish have many Forms, filling them all by hand is long -> need for automation or skeleton ([L7335](#))
- Where to enter some suffixes? Example: [L7335-F28](#)
- Dagbani language: the language exists in the selector for “language of the lexeme”, but not in the language code list for “language of the lemma”. Without entering a language of the lemma, the user can’t save the Lexeme. The user is blocked and has to use a fake language code. (is that a bug, or because the language is not included in the list? How to fix it?)

Findings **Special:NewLexeme**

- On Special:NewLexeme, the language selector is overflowed by the tab title ([T200331](#))
- Language list: user have to click on the language to select it ([T201587](#))
- Language of the lemma pops up above after filling language of the Lexeme ([T201593](#))

Findings **Editing a Lexeme**

- Wish to be able to add several Forms then click “Publish” only once for all ([T201591](#))
- Wish for property suggestions when adding a statement ([T201590](#))
- Wish to filter the value suggestor with things that are relevant for lexemes ([T189744](#))
- Suggestion: entering the Forms in a table and not a list (would be easier to have an overview, and more similar to the sources like grammar books)
- "Add statement" button below "Forms" is misleading - user initially thought it was for adding a statement to the lexeme, not the form. Suggestion: change to "add statement to this form"

Findings Modeling

- Should we write “frown” or “to frown” for English verbs?
- For English verbs and nouns having the same lemma: which one derives from the other?
- When a word and its plural have the same pronunciation: should the information be added twice, or at the parent (Lexeme) level?

Findings Content

- When entering a grammatical feature, there are several entries for 'Indefinite', and the difference between them is not clear
- Hungarian: need for “single possession” and “multiple possessions” (as grammatical feature or property?)
- Suggestion: use the existing properties "feminine version for labels" to generate forms automatically

Findings Interface (others)

- Special alphabet keyboards have to be used to write down the lemma, but English keyboard is needed for the navigation – switching back and forth, which creates extra work ([T201588](#))
- Positive discovery: the user can look for properties or values in Hebrew, even if the interface is in English
- mis-x-Q36790: this is difficult to understand. What is this item about? ([T201592](#))

Findings **Mobile**

- On Android tablet, the Lexeme language and lexical category selectors on Special:NewLexeme doesn't appear when entering a language
- On Android tablet, when clicking on an item in the suggestor list of the field "grammatical feature", it opens the page of the item instead of selecting it ([T197573](#))
- On mobile version, Special:NewLexeme doesn't work
- On mobile version: the lexeme language and category give an "Entered item ID has invalid format" error

Resources

- [Introduction slides from Lydia](#)
- [Slides of the workshop](#)
- [Raw notes taken by participants](#)

Contact, questions
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