Next lectures

- Word sense disambiguation
  » Background from linguistics
    ◆ Lexical semantics
  » On-line resources
  » Computational approaches

Caveats

- Problems with a compositional approach
  – a former congressman
  – a toy elephant
  – kicked the bucket

Semantic analysis

- Assigning meanings to utterances/sentences
  - Compositional semantics: we can derive the meaning of the whole sentence from the meanings of the parts.
    - Marseille ate a green apple.
  - Relies on knowing:
    - the meaning of individual words
    - how the meanings of individual words combine to form the meaning of groups of words
    - how it all fits in with syntactic analysis

Introduction to lexical semantics

- Lexical semantics is the study of
  - the systematic meaning-related connections among words and
  - the internal meaning-related structure of each word
- Lexeme
  - an individual entry in the lexicon
  - a pairing of a particular orthographic and phonological form with some form of symbolic meaning representation
- Sense: the lexeme’s meaning component
- Lexicon: a finite list of lexemes
Dictionary entries

- **right** *adj.* located nearer the right hand esp. being on the right when facing the same direction as the observer.
- **left** *adj.* located nearer to this side of the body than the right.

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- **red** *n.* the color of blood or a ruby.
- **blood** *n.* the red liquid that circulates in the heart, arteries and veins of animals.