Chapter 4: Further resources

Curzan, Anne. 2014. *What makes a word “real”?* (30 September, 2014)
http://www.ted.com/talks/anne_curzan_what_makes_a_word_real

One could argue that slang words like ‘hangry,’ ‘defriend’ and ‘adorkable’ fill crucial meaning gaps in the English language, even if they don't appear in the dictionary. After all, who actually decides which words make it into those pages? Language historian Anne Curzan gives a charming look at the humans behind dictionaries, and the choices they make.


David Crystal's classic English as a Global Language considers the history, present status and future of the English language, focusing on its role as the leading international language. English has been deemed the most 'successful' language ever, with 1500 million speakers internationally, presenting a difficult task to those who wish to investigate it in its entirety. However, Crystal explores the subject in a measured but engaging way, always backing up observations with facts and figures. Written in a detailed and fascinating manner, this is a book written by an expert both for specialists in the subject and for general readers interested in the English language.


In this up-to-date survey, Laurel Brinton and Elizabeth Traugott examine the various approaches to lexicalization, a process of language change whereby concepts are adopted into the lexicon. Drawing on a number of case studies from the history of English, they then propose a new, unified model of lexicalization and grammaticalization. Lexicalization, a process of language change, has been conceptualized in a variety of ways. Broadly defined as the adoption of concepts into the lexicon, it has been viewed by syntacticians as the reverse process of grammaticalization, by morphologists as a routine process of word-formation, and by semanticists as the development of concrete meanings. In this up-to-date survey, Laurel Brinton and Elizabeth Traugott examine the various conceptualizations of lexicalization that have been presented in the literature, and propose a new, unified model of lexicalization in light of current work on grammaticalization.


This book is the first work to address the question of what kinds of words get borrowed in a systematic and comparative perspective. It studies lexical borrowing behavior on the basis of a world-wide sample of 40 languages, both major languages and minor languages, and both languages with heavy borrowing and
languages with little lexical influence from other languages. The book is the result of a five-year project bringing together a unique group of specialists of many different languages and areas. The introductory chapters provide a general up-to-date introduction to language contact at the word level, as well as a presentation of the project's methodology. All the chapters are based on samples of 1000-2000 words, elicited by a uniform meaning list of 1460 meanings. The combined database, comprising over 70,000 words, is published online at the same time as the book is published. For each word, information about loanword status is given in the database, and the 40 case studies in the book describe the social and historical contact situations in detail. The final chapter draws general conclusions about what kinds of words tend to get borrowed, what kinds of word meanings are particularly resistant to borrowing, and what kinds of social contact situations lead to what kinds of borrowing situations.

http://wold.clld.org/

The World Loanword Database, edited by Martin Haspelmath and Uri Tadmor, is a scientific publication by the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig (2009). It provides vocabularies (mini-dictionaries of about 1000-2000 entries) of 41 languages from around the world, with comprehensive information about the loanword status of each word. It allows users to find loanwords, source words and donor languages in each of the 41 languages, but also makes it easy to compare loanwords across languages. Each vocabulary was contributed by an expert on the language and its history. An accompanying book has been published by De Gruyter Mouton (Loanwords in the World's Languages: A Comparative Handbook, edited by Martin Haspelmath & Uri Tadmor).


“The Cambridge Phrasal Verbs Dictionary features: around 6,000 phrasal verbs explained in simple language; thousands of example sentences based on the Cambridge International Corpus; clear advice on grammar and usage; and shows you the most important phrasal verbs to learn.” (From the book jacket)


The dictionary gives students the information they need to understand over 6,000 common British and American phrasal verbs, and use them correctly. Clear, simple definitions, with examples to show how phrasal verbs are used. Usage notes dealing with common problems help learners avoid typical mistakes. Synonyms and opposites help learners build their vocabulary. Common subjects and objects are shown to help learners use the verbs appropriately. 25 pages of tips and photocopiable exercises for classroom or individual practice. ‘Guide to the Particles’ explains the most important meanings of the main adverbs and prepositions used in phrasal verbs to help learners see patterns. (From the publisher: https:// elt.oup.com/catalogue/items/global/dictionaries/9780194317214)


From aboiement to zooerastia, a guided tour of the lantrified underbelly of the English language This unusual, un-put-downable little volume collects more than three hundred of the English language's most disgusting,
offensive, and obscene words—words that have fallen out of common usage but will no doubt delight, amuse, and in some cases prove surprisingly useful. Who hasn't searched for the right word to describe a colleague's maschalephidrosis (runaway armpit perspiration), a boss's pleonexia (insane greed), or a buddy's fumosities (ill-smelling vapors from a drunken person's belches)? Word lovers, chronic insulters, berayers, bescumbers, and bespewers need feel like tongue-tied witlings no more: Finding the correct, keck-inspiring word just got a whole lot easier.


The only up-to-date frequency dictionary of Spanish currently available, this is an invaluable tool for all learners of Spanish that provides a list of the 5,000 most commonly used words in the language. Based on a twenty million word corpus evenly divided between spoken, fiction and non-fiction texts from both Spain and Latin America, the Dictionary provides a detailed frequency-based list, as well as alphabetical and part-of-speech indexes to ensure maximum ease of access to the information and efficiency of use. All entries in the rank frequency list feature the English equivalent, a sample sentence and, where applicable, an indication of major register variation. The Dictionary also contains thirty thematically organized lists of frequently used words on a variety of topics, such as animals, weather, materials, and family terms.

http://pages.towson.edu/duncan/NewWordFormation.htm

Methods of Forming New Words in English. Short lecture with slides from course English 451. Duration: 17:17

http://www.phrasalverbdemon.com/

http://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/


As you know it is next to impossible to deduce the Spanish equivalents of common English phrases such as "take a break" or "have an idea" using only a bilingual dictionary. That's where *The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder* comes in. Containing 37,000 common phrases and idiomatic expressions in each language, *The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder* gives you invaluable guidance on phrase construction, along with a range of synonyms to choose from. Examples—including common proverbs and book and movie titles—provide you with vivid illustrations of how specific word combinations are used in everyday contexts in Spain and Latin America. (From the publisher's website.)