

THE LEXEME *KRYZYS* IN POLISH LEXICOGRAPHY

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The lexeme *kryzys* in Polish, which originally had a terminological (medical) character, was borrowed from German and for quite a long time did not stabilize in the linguistic system. Next it lost its terminological character and began to be used in relation to many different spheres of reality: economics, politics, system of values, culture, learning, sports, etc. Dictionaries of the Polish language lack certain collocations – frequent already in contemporary Polish texts – such as *kryzys w humanistyce*, *humanistyka w kryzysie*, *kryzys zdania*, *kryzys narracji*. Presumably, many combinations of the word *kryzys*, recorded in dictionaries and others found only in texts, today are internationalisms adopted from English.

Key words: lexicology, lexicography, semantic evolution of the word

Among the subjects to be considered at this conference, the organizers suggested *the humanities in crisis or crisis of the humanities*, *representation of crisis in literature, language and arts* and *crisis as a barrier to development and as a generator of modernizing transformations*. Their common semantic centre is the concept of *crisis*. This prompts lexicologists and lexicographers, among whom we count ourselves, to trace the history of the lexeme *crisis* in language. We shall do it with respect to the Polish language in which the lexeme has been known since the 19th century, although it sporadically made its way already to 18th-century texts (*see below*: quotations from the works by Ignacy Krasicki and Franciszek Karpiński). In Polish lexicography it was first recorded in the *Słownik języka polskiego...* compiled by Aleksander Zdanowicz *et al.*, published by Maurycy Orgelbrand in Wilno in 1861 and defined as: ‘decision, moment of decision, turning point for better or worse in a disease’ (Zdanowicz *et al.* eds. 1861; SWil)¹. The fact that *kryzys* was recorded first only in this lexicographic work is corroborated by four

¹ A list of dictionary title abbreviations is given at the end of the article.

etymological dictionaries: one by Franciszek Sławski (Sławski 1966, SES), two by Krystyna Długosz-Kurczabowa (Długosz-Kurczabowa 2003, NSE; Długosz-Kurczabowa 2008, WSEH), and one by Andrzej Bańkowski (Bańkowski 2000, ESB). The last mentioned, admittedly, adds in parentheses: ‘sporadically since the 17th century, e.g. in Pasek [...]’ (ESB), which, however, is not corroborated by either *Słownik języka Jana Chryzostoma Paska* (Koneczna, Doroszewski, eds. 1965), or *Elektroniczny słownik języka polskiego XVII i XVIII wieku* (Gruszczyński, ed. no year). In the other etymological dictionaries (Brückner 1927; Boryś 2005) there is no entry of the word *kryzys*.

Derived from Greek, the noun *kryzys* (Gr. *krísis* ‘decision, distinction, separation, turning point in a disease’ from *krínō* ‘I distinguish, decide’) was borrowed into Polish via Latin (Lat. *crisis* ‘turning point in a disease’) and German (Ger. *krisis*) in a narrowed, terminological sense. This original medical sense the word in question had in Polish seems to be corroborated by the SWil definition quoted earlier. The Greek-Latin etymology of *kryzys* is given by most works of Polish general and specialised (dictionaries of foreign words) language lexicography; whereas, *Słownik etymologiczny języka polskiego* by Franciszek Sławski (SES), both etymological dictionaries by Krystyna Długosz-Kurczabowa (NSE; WSEH) and *Słownik wyrazów obcych* edited by Zygmunt Rysiewicz (Rysiewicz, ed. 1954, SWOR) give German as the immediate source of adopting the Greek-Latin word by Polish.

The lexeme *kryzys* is present in all Slavic languages, e.g. Bulgarian (*круза*), Croatian (*kriza*), Serbian (*круза*), Macedonian (*круза*), Slovenian (*kriza*), Czech (*krize*), Slovak (*kríza*), Russian (*кризис*), Belarussian (*крызіс*) and Ukrainian (*круза*).

The initially distinct sense of foreignness of the word *kryzys* in the minds of the users of Polish is testified by its inflectional instability in the system. To the original fluctuations in the category of gender point annotations in *Słownik warszawski*: masculine or feminine, cf. ‘K[ryzys] handlowa. K[ryzys] handlowy’; ‘Polska przebywała właśnie K[ryzys], która s[ie] od r. 1764 nieprzerwanie ciągnie’ (Kras[icki]); ‘Szczęśliwie przeszła K[ryzys] choroby, będziesz rychło zdrów i po wszystkim’ (Krasz[ewski]); ‘Widok ojca zamiast uspokojenie przynieść, wywołał K[ryzys] gwałtowną’ (Krasz[ewski]); ‘Dla obojga przyszła jednocześnie szczęśliwa K[ryzys]’ (Sienk[iewicz])) (Karłowicz, Kryński, Niedźwiedzki, eds. 1902; SW)². In *Słownik języka polskiego*, edited by

² This dictionary records also (as rare) the feminine form *kryza*. Today, it is not used in Polish but occurs in most Slavic languages (cf. examples given earlier).

Witold Doroszewski, the occurrence of the lexeme in the feminine gender is attested by a quote from *Kroniki* by Bolesław Prus: ‘Co się tyczy szkół średnich, to przechodziły kryzys bardzo ciężką’ while its occurrence with unassimilated spelling is illustrated by a quote from *Pamiętniki* by Franciszek Karpiński: ‘Już blisko byli kościoła, kiedy trup mniemany (a którego pewnie krisis choroby uspiła była) ruszać się począł [...]’ and in the neuter gender by a quote from *Obrazki prawdziwe* by Wiktor Gomułicki: ‘Życie moje przełamuje się. Przebywam kryzys, które, nie wiem, jak się zakończy’. Both genders were qualified as archaic (Doroszewski, ed. 1961, SJPDor). Gender fluctuations were noted also in etymological dictionaries by Bańkowski (‘e.g. in Pasek *kryzys* [feminatywum]’) (ESB), Sławski (SES) and Długosz-Kurczabowa (NSE; WSEH), with the latter two authors reporting also the neuter gender. It follows from the annotations in the SW and SJPDor that *kryzys* also used to be uninflected.

The nineteenth-century meaning of the lexeme *kryzys*, given in the SWil as ‘decision, moment of decision, turning point for better or worse in a disease’, by the early 20th century must have been already incompatible with the language reality since we find two separate definitions in the SW. A general one reads: ‘turning point, shock, catastrophe, decisive development’ while a terminological one, in the field of medicine, says: ‘turning point in a disease’. The medical meaning is consistently recorded by all later general and specialised dictionaries of Polish. It is illustrated by the following collocations drawn from the dictionaries referred to in this article:³ *kryzys choroby / w chorobie* [Eng. *disease crisis*], *kryzys minął* [Eng. *crisis has passed*], *kryzys powinien nastąpić* [Eng. *crisis should come*] and archaic: *gwałtowna kryzys* [Eng. *violent crisis (feminine)*], *szczęśliwa kryzys* [Eng. *happy crisis (feminine)*]. Interestingly enough, the last combination illustrates the old positive connotation implied by the medical sense of the word *kryzys* with the semantic centre of ‘turning point’ while today ‘the state of greatest intensity of some kind of an ailment’ is the semantic import of the word, which has a negative connotation.

³ The quoted word combinations with the noun *kryzys* come from the general and specialised dictionaries referred to in the study (see Bibliography). The combinations include both terminological combinations and collocations selected by dictionary editors as well as combinations reconstructed from quotations or invented complete-sentence examples. Out of the dictionaries referred to in the study, *kryzys* has no entry in the following: Brückner 1927; Boryś 2005; Bąba, Liberek 2001; Kłosińska, Sobol, Stankiewicz, eds. 2005 (WSF), Geller, Dąbrówka 2007; Gruszczyński, ed. no year.

The subsequent lexicographic entries of the word *kryzys* suggest that since the middle of the 20th century its semantic structure has witnessed a process of specialization affecting its general meaning mentioned earlier. The SJP Dor distinguishes an economic meaning: ‘in economics: a period of economic slump recurrent **in the capitalist system** [emphasis A.P. & M.W.S]; characterized by overproduction, decrease in effective demand and the purchasing power of a working population, unemployment, confusion in economic life’. As can be seen, the manner of formulating the definition was strongly affected by the socio-political reality of those times. It was reflected even more clearly in the definition from *Słownik wyrazów obcych* edited by Jan Tokarski:

a slump in economic growth, a phenomenon that is inseparable from the **capitalist economy, being a phase of the business cycle, brought about by the contradiction between the social character of production and the individual character of appropriation** [emphasis A.P. & M.W.S], it is characterized by a sharp decline in production and employment (Tokarski, ed. 1971, SWOT).

This understanding of an economic crisis is illustrated by the combination *kryzys nadprodukcji* [Eng. *overproduction crisis*] defined in the SWOR published in 1954 (i.e. at the apogee of communism in Poland) as:

a recurrent phenomenon in the capitalist economy, consisting primarily in the fact that goods cannot be sold due to their superfluity. The superfluity is relative, because the working masses cannot satisfy their needs due to low wages. Crisis is the initial phase of capitalist reproduction, a turbulent and destructive one. Other crisis characteristics include: a drop in prices, acute shortage of means of payment, stock-exchange crashes, rapid fall in production, growth in unemployment and a fall in wages (SWOR).

In the lexicographic sources from which excerpts are taken, collocations referring to the economy are numerous. As archaic one can be considered the combination *kryzys handlowy* [Eng. *trade crisis*], recorded only in the SWil and SW, and defined as ‘major, widespread danger that may damage trade and expose it to considerable losses’ (SWil). Word combinations listed in dictionaries today refer to various branches of the

economy: agriculture (*kryzys agrarny*⁴, *rolny / rolniczy / w rolnictwie*) [Eng. *agrarian crisis, agricultural crisis, farm crisis*], industry (*kryzys przemysłowy / w przemyśle*) [Eng. *industrial crisis, crisis in industry*], power engineering (*kryzys energetyczny, gazowy, naftowy, paliwowy*) [Eng. *energy crisis, gas crisis, oil crisis, fuel crisis*], construction (*kryzys mieszkaniowy*) [Eng. *housing crisis*], finance (*kryzys bankowy, budżetowy, finansowy / finansów, walutowy*) [Eng. *banking crisis, budget crisis, financial crisis, foreign exchange crisis*]. Furthermore, there are many set combinations referring in general to the economic sphere: *kryzys ekonomiczny*⁵, *gospodarczy / gospodarki* [Eng. *economic crisis*], as well as ones with a genitive attribute: *kryzys branży jakiejś* [Eng. *crisis in some branch of economy*] and a prepositional attribute: *kryzys na rynku czegoś* [Eng. *crisis on some market*]. Only the latest, compiled online and kept up to date, *Wielki słownik języka polskiego PAN* edited by Piotr Źmigrodzki (Źmigrodzki, ed. no year; WSJP) records series combinations with the lexeme *kryzys*: *kryzys i bezrobocie, kryzys i recesja, kryzys i upadek, kryzys i załamanie* [Eng. *crisis and unemployment, crisis and recession, crisis and decline, crisis and slump*].

In the SJP Dor, the second definition of the headword *kryzys*, referring to various spheres of reality, reads: ‘turning point or moment: with regard to individual experiences or views, the development of culture, learning, political events, etc.’. An attempt to distinguish still narrower ranges of meaning was made only in the latest general dictionaries. In the *Inny słownik języka polskiego* edited by Mirosław Bańko, one can read:

- Kryzys* is [...] 1.2. a situation where a conflict, especially a political one, has become so serious so as to threaten an outbreak of war, a change of government or another radical solution.
2. Crisis of religion, values, confidence in something is a situation where they lose their importance.
3. If someone undergoes a crisis, he/she is in a very bad mental condition and cannot normally work or think [...] (Bańko, ed. 2000; ISJP).

⁴ The *Praktyczny słownik współczesnej polszczyzny* edited by Halina Zgółkowska gives the following definition: ‘deep slump in agricultural production brought about by droughts, floods, pests as well as changes in the socio-economic situation, defective exchange relations between agriculture and industry, etc., an overproduction crisis is a variety of agricultural crisis’ (Zgółkowska, ed. 1998, PSWP).

⁵ The SWOR defines it as ‘a temporary or chronic slump of state finances seen in budget deficit and sovereign debt growth’.

Thus, three spheres (besides the economic and medical ones, mentioned earlier and therefore omitted from the quotation) have been distinguished to which a crisis may refer: politics, values and psyche.

To the world of politics, many collocations refer as well. In this case, too, communism left its mark on the SWOR that lists the term *kryzys rewolucyjny* [Eng. *revolutionary crisis*] with the following definition: ‘in a class society, a political situation characterized by a rapid escalation of the struggle of oppressed classes against the policies of the ruling class of exploiters’ (SWOR). The other dictionaries give combinations with adjectival attributes: *kryzys gabinetowy*⁶, *konstytucyjny*, *parlamentarny*⁷, *polityczny*⁸, *rządowy*⁹ [Eng. *cabinet*, *constitutional*, *parliamentary*, *political*, *government crisis*], nominal genitive attributes: *kryzys demokracji*, *koalicji*, *komunizmu*, *państwa*, *przywództwa*, *władzy* [Eng. *crisis of democracy*, *crisis of (a/the) coalition*, *crisis of communism*, *crisis of the state*, *crisis of leadership*, *crisis of authority*] and a single one with a prepositional attribute: *kryzys w stosunkach* [Eng. *crisis in relations*]. In addition, the WSJP records two series: *kryzys i konflikt*, *kryzys i wojna* [Eng. *crisis and conflict*, *crisis and war*]. Several word combinations quoted in this dictionary give by way of example regions of the world engulfed in political conflicts: *kryzys iracki*, *jugosłowiański*, *kubański*, *marokański*, *kryzys w Zatoce Perskiej* [Eng. *Iraq*, *Yugoslavia*, *Cuban*, *Moroccan crisis*, *Persian Gulf crisis*].

The language of values – besides the general collocation *kryzys wartości* [Eng. *crisis of values*] – is illustrated by collocations relating to faith/religion (*kryzys duchowy*, *religijny / religii*, *kryzys kościoła*, *wiary*, *wierzeń*) [Eng. *spiritual crisis*, *religious crisis*, *Church crisis*, *crisis of beliefs*] and – more generally – ethics (*kryzys autorytetów*, *zaufania*, *kryzys moralny*, *światopoglądowy*) [Eng. *crisis of authorities*, *crisis of confidence*, *moral crisis*, *world-view crisis*]. Only the PSWP records the term *kryzys*

⁶ In both general dictionaries edited by Bogusław Dunaj, it is defined as follows: ‘of a situation when a cabinet collapses after a non-confidence vote in parliament’ (Dunaj, ed. 1996, SJPDun I; Dunaj, ed. 2007, SJPDun II).

⁷ In the PWSP with the following definition: ‘loss of support and confidence by a ruling party or coalition, making it necessary to call a new election’.

⁸ In the PWSP defined as ‘collapse of a specific policy and the loss of common consent by the ruling group’.

⁹ Listed in many dictionaries with the following definition: ‘situation brought about by the collapse of a cabinet due to a non-confidence vote in parliament’ (SWOR, SWOT, Szymczak, ed. 1978 (SJPSz), SJPDun I, SJPDun II, PSWP, Dubisz, ed. 2003 (USJP), WSJP, Müldner-Nieckowski 2003 (SFM), Bańko 2006 (SDS)).

kulturowy [Eng. *cultural crisis*] in the sense of ‘a situation in which values cherished hitherto collapse and new ones have not developed yet’ (PSWP).

To the mental sphere, relate the following: *kryzys emocjonalny, nerwowy, psychiczny, uczuciowy, wewnętrzny, kryzys świadomości* and *mieć kryzys* [Eng. *emotional crisis, nervous crisis, mental crisis, emotional crisis, internal crisis, crisis of consciousness, be in crisis*]. It is worth mentioning that no dictionary before the USJP recorded *kryzys tożsamości* [Eng. *identity crisis*] as a petrified expression meaning ‘dilemmas related to someone's self-identification’. It was subsequently repeated in the WSJP and WSF; the latter included also the following: *doprowadzać do kryzysu tożsamości* [Eng. *precipitate identity crisis*], *przeżywać kryzys tożsamości* [Eng. *undergo identity crisis*], *przewyciężyć kryzys tożsamości* [Eng. *overcome identity crisis*]. The WSJP, in turn, was the first to record the collocation *kryzys wieku średniego* [Eng. *midlife crisis*] meaning ‘period of transition in human life that may occur more or less in middle age, manifested by a desire for change in professional and private life’ (WSJP) and related phrases: *cierpieć na kryzys wieku średniego, przechodzić kryzys wieku średniego, przeżywać kryzys wieku średniego* [Eng. *suffer from a midlife crisis, go through a midlife crisis, live through a midlife crisis*].

The general definition of the word *kryzys* given by the SJP Dor contains references to culture and science, which in the accumulated excerpts is illustrated by the collocations: *kryzys kulturalny / kultury, kryzys nauki, oświaty* [Eng. *cultural crisis, research crisis, crisis of the education system*]. Moreover, this dictionary gives also other collocations that are related to art either generally – *kryzys sztuki, kryzys twórczy* [Eng. *art crisis, creative crisis*] (also: *przechodzić / przeżywać kryzys twórczy* [Eng. *go through a creative crisis*]) – or particularly – *kryzys pisarski, kryzys kina, teatru* [Eng. *writer's block, cinema crisis, theatre crisis*].

Although no definition of *kryzys* cited in this article covered the sphere of social phenomena, certain collocations clearly refer to it. The general expression *kryzys społeczny* [Eng. *social crisis*] is defined in the PSWP as ‘state of accumulation of social tensions and conflicts that may interrupt the society's development cycle continuing hitherto’ (PSWP). The dictionaries listed also the following combinations: *kryzys cywilizacyjny, kryzys więzi* [Eng. *crisis of civilization, relationship crisis*]. A sign of the times, the 21st-century lexicography recorded *kryzys małżeński / w małżeństwie* and *kryzys rodziny* [Eng. *marital crisis, family crisis*].

The WSJP added one more definition of the word *kryzys* related to sports: ‘a situation where a player or a team loses to or ties with their opponents in successive games thus falling down the ranking list of a

specific sports discipline' (WSJP) and illustrated it with the following word combinations: *kryzys drużyny / w drużynie* [Eng. *team crisis*].

The semantic development of the lexeme *kryzys* shown so far, documented by analyzing both dictionary definitions and collocations, shall be supplemented by word combination examples, referring to almost all senses of this word. No precise assignments of the quoted combinations to particular *kryzys* definitions shall be made in order to avoid arbitrariness. The lexicographic wealth of the documented lexical contexts of this word testifies to its taking strong root and stabilization in the Polish language.

Among the collocations with broad semantic fields mentioned earlier, several subgroups can be distinguished, with the first one encompassing collocations relating to the place of a crisis in time. Specifically, to a crisis in time refer such collocations as *czas kryzysu, doba kryzysu, lata kryzysu, okres kryzysu, obecny kryzys* [Eng. *time of crisis, crisis time, years of crisis, period of crisis, current crisis*], to its duration: *kryzys chroniczny, długotrwały, permanentny, przewlekły* [Eng. *chronic crisis, long-lasting crisis, perpetual crisis, protracted crisis*], while to its phases: *początek kryzysu, faza kryzysu* [Eng. *onset of crisis, crisis phase*]. Other collocations indicate the intensity of a crisis, for instance: *ciężki / najcięższy kryzys, poważny / najpoważniejszy kryzys, wielki / największy kryzys, dramatyczny kryzys, tragiczny kryzys, głęboki kryzys, gwałtowny kryzys, narastający kryzys, ostry kryzys, potężny kryzys, wyraźny kryzys* [Eng. *severe crisis, serious (most serious) crisis, profound (most profound) crisis, dramatic crisis, tragic crisis, deep crisis, violent crisis, mounting crisis, acute crisis, mighty crisis, clear crisis*]. A surprise caused by a crisis gives rise to another type of expressions: *nagły kryzys, niespodziewany kryzys* [Eng. *sudden crisis, unexpected crisis*]. The broad scope of a crisis is specified by such adjectival attributes as: *kryzys europejski, globalny, międzynarodowy, ogólnoswiatowy, światowy, ogólny, powszechny* [Eng. *European, global, international, worldwide, world, general, widespread crisis*].

Occurring as a genitive attribute, the word *kryzys* may combine with nouns describing cause and effect relationships since dictionaries list such collocations as: *powód kryzysu, przyczyna kryzysu, źródło kryzysu, konsekwencja kryzysu, skutek kryzysu, wynik kryzysu* [Eng. *cause of crisis, reason for crisis, source of crisis, aftermath of crisis, effect of crisis, wake of crisis*]. Yet, another semantic aspect – a harbinger of crisis or its continuation – is indicated by such combinations as: *groźba kryzysu, niebezpieczeństwo kryzysu, ryzyko kryzysu, sytuacja kryzysu, stan kryzysu, objaw kryzysu, przejaw kryzysu, symptom kryzysu* [Eng. *threat of crisis,*

danger of crisis, risk of crisis, crisis situation, state of crisis, symptom of crisis, manifestation of crisis]. Some government constructions have a metaphoric sense: *widmo kryzysu, wybuch kryzysu, oblicze kryzysu* [Eng. *spectre of crisis, outburst of crisis, face of crisis*].

Furthermore, the collected linguistic material has a plethora of verbal combinations with the noun *kryzys*. Returning to the time axis, one can distinguish expressions and phrases, relating to the three stages of a crisis: (a) beginning: *czekać na kryzys, doprowadzić do kryzysu, przyczynić się do kryzysu, spowodować kryzys, wywołać kryzys, uniknąć kryzysu; kryzys grozi czemuś, nadciąga, nadszedł, zaczyna się* [Eng. *await crisis, precipitate crisis, bring things to crisis, cause crisis, create crisis, avert crisis; crisis threatens something, crisis looms, sets on, starts*]; (b) continuation: *być w kryzysie, odczuwać kryzys, pogłębić kryzys, pogrążyć się w kryzysie, przechodzić kryzys, przeżywać kryzys, wychodzić z kryzysu, znajdować się w kryzysie; kryzys dotknął / dotyka coś / czegoś, narasta, następuje, nęka coś, ogarnął coś, panuje, pogłębia się, pokazał coś, trwa, wstrząsa czymś, wybuchł* [Eng. *be in crisis, be affected by crisis, aggravate crisis, sink into crisis, go through crisis, get over crisis; crisis affects / affected something, crisis hits / hit something, crisis mounts, takes place, grips something, engulfs something, reigns, grows worse, crisis has shown something, crisis continues, crisis undermines something, crisis erupted*]; (c) end: *opanować kryzys, przebyć kryzys, przelamać kryzys, przetrwać kryzys, przetrzymać kryzys, przewyciężyć kryzys, rozwiązać kryzys, zażegnać kryzys, zwalczyć kryzys; kryzys minął* [Eng. *bring crisis under control, weather crisis, overcome crisis, survive crisis, withstand crisis, resolve crisis, prevent / defuse crisis, stave off crisis; crisis has passed*].

To recapitulate, it follows from the dictionary entries of the lexeme *kryzys* that it originally had a terminological (medical) character and was borrowed from German and for quite a long time did not stabilize in the linguistic system of Polish (fluctuations with respect to gender and its original invariability). What is more, in the course of its semantic development, it lost its terminological character and began to be used in relation to many different, ever-newer spheres of reality: economics, politics, system of values, culture, learning, sports, etc. Moreover, its connotation has changed: from originally positive (in medicine) to negative (in all its senses) today. Dictionaries of the Polish language, even the most recent ones, lack certain collocations – frequent already in contemporary Polish texts – such as *kryzys w humanistyce, humanistyka w kryzysie, kryzys zdania, kryzys narracji* [Eng. *crisis in the humanities, the humanities in crisis, crisis of sentence, crisis of narration*]. They expand

the small set of dictionary collocations concerning culture and learning although the connection between a crisis and these domains was already observed by Witold Doroszewski in the middle of the 20th century, who gave expression to it in one of the definitions included in the relevant entry ('turning point or moment: with regard to individual experiences or views, the **development of culture, learning** [emphasis A.P. & M.W.S], political events, etc.'). Presumably, many combinations of the word *kryzys*, recorded in dictionaries and others found only in texts, today are internationalisms adopted from English. This question, however, would call for a separate, detailed comparative study.

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- Żmigrodzki, ed.:** *Wielki słownik języka polskiego PAN*. ed. P. Żmigrodzki. WWW.wsjp.pl (10.10.2018).

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- ESB – Bańkowski, A. *Etymologiczny słownik języka polskiego*. vol. 1. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2000.
- ISJP – Bańko, M. *Inny słownik języka polskiego*. vol. 1. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2000.
- NSE – Długosz-Kurczabowa, K. *Nowy słownik etymologiczny języka polskiego*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2003.
- PSWP – *Praktyczny słownik współczesnej polszczyzny*. ed. H. Zgólkowa. vol. 18. Poznań: Wydawnictwo Kurpisz, 1998.
- SDS – Bańko, M. *Słownik dobrego stylu czyli wyrazy które się lubią*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2006.
- SES – Sławski, F. *Słownik etymologiczny języka polskiego*. vol. 3. Kraków: Towarzystwo Miłośników Języka Polskiego, 1966.
- SFM – Müldner-Nieckowski, P. *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny języka polskiego*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Świat Książki, 2003.
- SJPDor – *Słownik języka polskiego*. ed. W. Doroszewski. vol. 3. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Wiedza Powszechna, 1961.
- SJPDun I – *Słownik współczesnego języka polskiego*. ed. B. Dunaj. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Wilga, 1996.
- SJPDun II – *Współczesny słownik języka polskiego*. ed. B. Dunaj. vol. 1. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Langenscheidt, 2007.
- SJPSz – *Słownik języka polskiego*. ed. M. Szymczak. vol. 1. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 1978.
- SW – *Słownik języka polskiego*. ed. J. Karłowicz, A.A. Kryński, W. Niedźwiedzki. vol. 2. Warszawa: W drukarni E. Lubowskiego i S-ki, 1902.
- SWil – Zdanowicz, A. et al. *Słownik języka polskiego*. part 1. Wilno: Wydawnictwo Orgelbranda, 1861.
- SWOR – *Słownik wyrazów obcych*. ed. Z. Rysiewicz. Warszawa: Państwowy Instytut Wydawniczy, 1954.
- SWOT – *Słownik wyrazów obcych*. ed. J. Tokarski. Warszawa: Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, 1971.
- USJP – *Uniwersalny słownik języka polskiego*. ed. S. Dubisz. vol. 2. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2003.
- WSEH – Długosz-Kurczabowa, K. *Wielki słownik etymologiczno-historyczny języka polskiego*. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2008.
- WSF – *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny PWN z przysłowiami*. ed. A. Kłosińska, E. Sobol, A. Stankiewicz. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo PWN, 2005.
- WSJP – *Wielki słownik języka polskiego PAN*. ed. P. Żmigrodzki. WWW.wsjp.pl [accessed: 10.10.2018].