

A SPECIALIZED DICTIONARY, NECESSARY IN ROMANIAN AIR FORCE

Review of the volume *Dicționar de aviație englez-român* by Elena-Raluca Constantin and Alexandra Ionescu, Bucharest, Ars Docendi, 2016

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FIG.1 Elena-Raluca Constantin & Alexandra Ionescu, *Dicționar de aviație englez-român*. Front cover.

English has become a universal language in civil and military aviation, in communication used in aviation. Given this contemporary reality and a particular need of specialized dictionaries, Elena-Raluca Constantin, lecturer in the Department of Foreign Languages and Intercultural Communication, Military Technical Academy in Bucharest, helped by Alexandra Ionescu, has proposed a very useful and necessary English-Romanian dictionary, the only one in this area in Romania (Constantin & Ionescu, 2016).

Aviation dictionaries are necessary for the acquisition of the specialized terminology used by the staff, the civil and military aviation operators, the maintenance crews and all those working in the aviation industry. Unlike general aeronautical dictionaries, aviation

dictionaries easily fix the technical terms and are very practical for all those who operate in the large area of aeronautics, from pilots to technicians.

The authors of this dictionary have emphasized their projective intention, considering this linguistic tool to be focused on the area of aeronautical engineering:

This dictionary meets all those seeking clarification and information about civil and military aviation lexis. More specifically, the work includes technical terms frequently used within the specialized language and it is a linguistic tool necessary for aviation engineers and officer-engineers¹. (Constantin & Ionescu, 2016:5)

Even if the dictionary focuses on the terminology necessary to operate within aeronautical engineering, it is a useful linguistic tool in Romanian Air Force, especially in 'Henri Coanda' Air Force Academy, for adequate training of aviation students (pilots, navigators, air traffic controllers, meteorologists). The need to use this dictionary within the specific university of the Romanian Air Force is strictly connected to the main utility of a dictionary, i.e. utility in the process of learning.

Besides the more than 5.000 defined terms that make the dictionary comparable with the monolingual specialized dictionary of David Crocker (2012), it is very practical due to the pragmatics' examples, especially designed by authors to exemplify the effective use of terms in particular linguistic contexts. The pragmatic aspect of the dictionary is very relevant, as the examples of using the specialized terminology in context are presented bilingually, both in English and Romanian. In this respect, we chose to randomly exemplify, by a particular term, in order to illustrate the usefulness of operating with this linguistic tool:

fatigue *subst.* oboseală; **aircraft** ~ oboseală constructivă; **flight** ~ oboseală de zbor; **thermal** ~ oboseală termică; ~ **crack** fisură survenită din cauza rodajului; ~ **strenght** rezistență la oboseală. *Fan blades must be resistant to fatigue and thermal shock./ Elicele ventilatorului trebuie să fie durabile și rezistente la șocul termic.* (Constantin & Ionescu, 2016:147)

This example is important because one single term in Constantin & Ionescu's dictionary corresponds to six different entries (terms and phrases) defined in Jeppesen's monolingual dictionary (see, for example, 2006:131) that contains 10,000 definitions. In relationship with Crocker's, the present dictionary contains the context of using terms in both languages, English and Romanian.

Constantin & Ionescu bilingual dictionary (2016) is useful in developing a specific lexis (a professiolect), in knowing and correct using of aviation terminology, in relation to the context of language use. The dictionary is characterized by a very rigorous selection of information and by pragmatic correlations, useful in defining concrete linguistic contexts. The requirement of rigor is fundamental in constructing such a linguistic tool, because the professional area of aviation requires coherent, fluent and intelligible communication, comprehensive and accurate expression in transmitting information, necessary for taking decisions on the spot, often in matters of life and death.

REFERENCES

- [1] Constantin, Elena-Raluca & Ionescu, Alexandra, *Dicționar de aviație englez-român*. Bucharest: Ars Docendi / University of Bucharest, 2016;
- [2] Crocker, David. [1999], *Dictionary of Aviation*. Second edition. London: Bloomsbury, 2012;
- [3] ***. [2003], *The Aviation Dictionary for Pilots and Aviation Maintenance Technicians*. Englewood, CO: Jeppesen Sanderson, Inc, 2006.

¹ „Dicționarul de față vine în întâmpinarea tuturor celor care doresc clarificări și informații în legătură cu lexical aviatic civil sau militar. Mai exact, lucrarea cuprinde termeni tehnici cu o frecvență ridicată în limbajul de specialitate, fiind un instrument lingvistic necesar inginerilor și ofițerilor ingineri de aviație”, in original.