Dante

a lexical database for English
entirely corpus-driven

all you need to know about
92,000 words and phrases

including
inherent grammar
syntactic patterns
idioms, compounds & collocates
domain, register, region, style

for
new dictionary production
dictionary revision
language technology
linguistic research

400 years of lexicography!
our team of top-class editors have over 400 years of dictionary-writing experience between them

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Sample queries

Q valency pattern
verbs with directional complements?

Response: 392 *including*

sail	scrabble	scull
saunter	scramble	scurry
scamper	scroll	scuttle
schlep	scud	shamble

Q grammar
adverbs of degree?

Response: 485 *including*

overwhelmingly	palpably
painfully	partially
painstakingly	particularly…

Q colour terms?

Response: 144 *including*

amethyst	lilac	ruby
anthracite	magenta	ruddy
apple green	maroon	russet
aqua	mauve	rust
aquamarine	midnight	sable
aubergine…	blue …	saffron

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The lexical entry

benchmark

1 n [BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION] a standard or point of reference against which something can be measured or assessed

These Pe[illegible] provide **benchmarks** *against which a scho[illegible] focus has always b[illegible]ce.*
O[illegible]hich others are measure[illegible]hing new **benchmarks** *by*

CHUNK set a benchmark
MIT has shown a standard [illegible]n education and research that sets a **benchmark** *for u[illegible]verywhere.*

STRUCTURE PP_X for
COLLOCATES quality, perf[illegible]ormance
[illegible]Meanwhile, he explains wh[illegible]merican TV is a **benchmark** *for [illegible]*
Those [illegible]quality.
[illegible]n to be the **benchmark** *for competent[illegible]tandards ho[illegible]g workp[illegible]*

STRUCTURE PP_X of
COLLOCATES excellence, quality
I do see this as a **benchmark** *of excellence.*
We look forward to making treatment in England [illegible]hmark of quality.

2 v [BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION] to evaluate sth by comparis[illegible] standard or point of reference

STRUCTURE NP
In principle, almost any activity can be **benchmarked**.
All public sector prisons will be **benchmarked** *over a seven year period.*

STRUCTURE NP PP_X against
Additionally the service is **benchmarked** *against similar schemes elsewhere in the UK.*
When **benchmarked** *against the top US universities, it ranked fourth overall.*
This annual survey enables you to **benchmark** *your turnover rates against similar NHS organisations.*

3 n [IT] a standard test to measure the performance of computer hardware or software

The corporation plans to release the first **benchmarks** *run on its parallel server technology within the next few weeks.*
Public domain software such as GNU compilers have been ported to ANDF along with the SPEC **benchmarks** *and OSF 's Motif graphical user interface.*
The 150MHz Alpha chip rated 74.3 and 125.1 respectively on the same **benchmarks**.

4 n [SURVEYING] a surveyor's mark cut in a wall, pillar, or building, and used as a reference point in measuring altitudes

A total station/tachometer set up on a known **benchmark** *is then*

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What is Dante?

Dante stands for Database of Analysed Texts of English. Its lexical entries offer a thorough, systematic, and fine-grained description of the core vocabulary of English, derived entirely from corpus data.

Dante contains data for:

- over 42,000 headwords
- over 27,000 idioms / phrases
- over 20,500 compounds
- over 2,500 phrasal verbs
- over 622,000 example sentences from the corpus

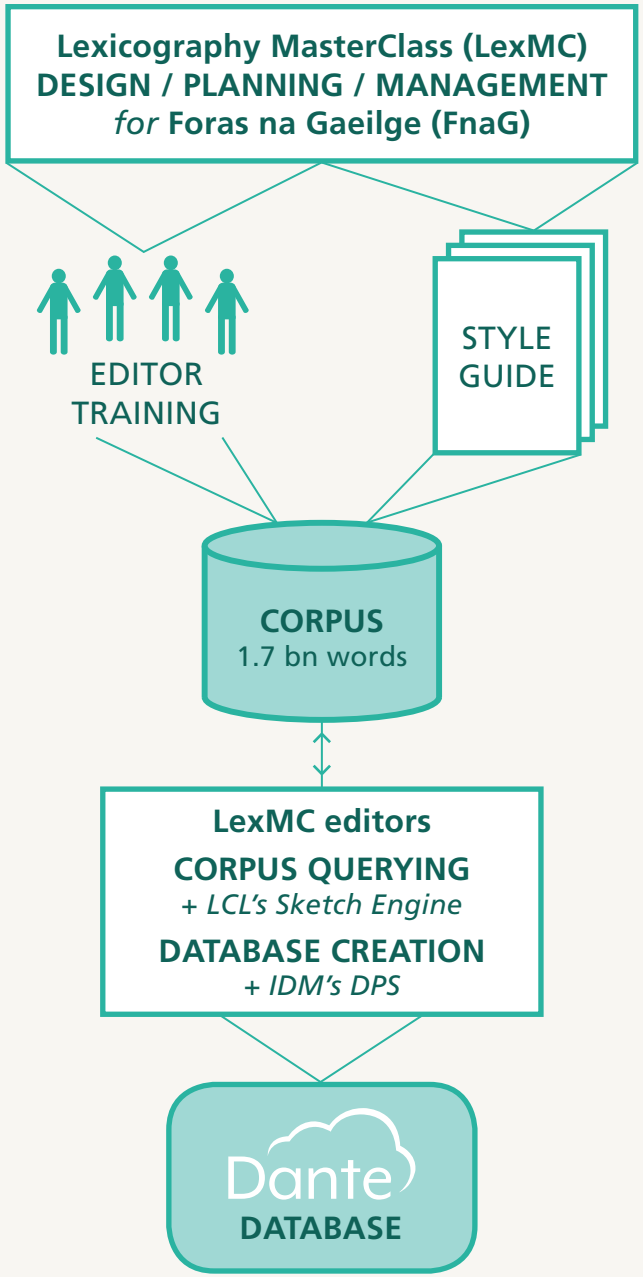
recording for every word sense:

- grammatical facts
  part of speech, countability etc.
- valency / syntactic structures
  transitivity, complementation
- significant collocates
- region, register, style, domain

and for every fact:

- unabridged corpus sentence examples

How was Dante built?



Who needs Dante?

Publishers

- making new bilingual dictionaries with English as source language
- making new monolingual English dictionaries
- enhancing dictionaries for electronic publication
- updating existing dictionaries
- creating a dictionary DTD

Language Engineers

- word sense disambiguation
- information extraction
- question answering
- grammar checking
- machine translation

Linguists / Researchers

- research on the English lexicon

Language Teachers

- finding language patterns
- building lessons

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FnaG	www.focloir.ie
LCL	www.sketchengine.co.uk
IDM	www.idm.fr/products

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