

A basic course in using Lexique Pro

FOR COMMUNITY LANGUAGE WORKERS
BY
COLLEEN HATTERSLEY

Introduction

- Hello and thank you for the opportunity to present information on the introduction course on Lexique Pro.
- I can't be with you today so Virginia Westwood will speak on my behalf.
- I am a community linguist with 12 years experience working at grassroots level to help speakers develop resources for language teaching and maintenance.

Experience

- I have conducted workshops in language collection using Lexique Pro to different groups at:
- Beenleigh (Qld)
- Cunnamulla (Qld)
- Mitchell (Qld)
- Fitzroy Crossing (WA)
- Derby (WA)
- Stradbroke Island (Qld)



Derby Workshop 2007: L-R
Annie Nayina Milgin, Colleen Hattersley, Bronwyn
Stokes, Emily Poelina-Hunter.

Lexique Pro Course

The Lexique Pro Course grew out of these workshops. It:

- responds to the community desire for access to heritage language in a simple format.
- recognises skills and knowledge of community members.
- offers the opportunity to learn new skills like editing photos and recording audio – which also add to employability and may lead to career opportunities.
- is self-correcting and self-paced – students move on when they are ready.
- is not accredited and therefore not subject to time constraints.

Observations

- Because they are relevant to the task, people pick up the skills quickly.
- Additional language information is offered resulting in richer entries.
- People feel empowered and maintain interest.
- There is a sense of ownership and pride in results.
- Improved employability due to improved computer skills and better Standard English.
- Improvement in self confidence in participants.

Can we formalise this?

- After various approaches and enquiries, Kimberley TAFE at Broome agreed to trial an online course in Lexique Pro if I wrote it.
- Course became available 2nd semester 2010.
- Two students enrolled, non linguists, non language speakers.
- Both performed at above 80%.
- Insufficient enrolments so TAFE terminated the course .
- Yugambeh Museum are keen to offer course with some amendments. Amendments will take time.
- Original course can be made available on CD now, revised course should be available early in 2012.

How is course structured?

Under instruction the student:

- Installs basic database of 59 entries on their PC (samples from three languages).
- Explores interface – both screens.
- Begins changing entries, then adding entries, adding images, sound files, more detail.
- Finishes with 120 entries in three categories.
- Is guided through export process, assembly, proofing and printing dictionary.

Result: sample dictionary in print and interactive formats.

What does the course cover?

The course covers:

- Familiarity with the interface.
- Application and results of using backslash codes: \lx, \ge, \sd, \xv, \xe, \ng, \sn, \cf, \re, \pc, \sc, \sf, \sfx, \ph, \nt, \mr and \ps.
- Emphasis on checking data and consistency of presentation.
- Exporting three versions to Word (Alpha list, Categories list and English Finder list).
- Suggestions on formatting printed document.
- Proofing printed document before sending to printer.

What the course does NOT cover

The course does not cover:

- Advice on collection of language data.
- Deciding on an orthography.
- Instruction on linguistic concepts.
- Manipulating setup of the database (eg changing fonts, creating categories – these aspects will be dealt with if an advanced course is developed).
- Instruction on using Word.



Stradbroke Island Elders-in-Council work on the Jandai dictionary in 2011.

Finally

- The course was written to raise the skills level and understanding of people in community groups who want to document their heritage language.
- It is NOT envisaged that individuals will all go away and make their own dictionaries for the same language though this might occur initially.
- If a number of individual dictionaries are created by people doing the course, this should be seen as part of the learning process. Those people could be encouraged to join forces in a wider process once they feel confident of their skills.

Lesson 1

Learning about Lexique Pro A course for community language workers

LESSON ONE Install Lexique Pro from CD-ROM



In this lesson you will install the Lexique Pro program onto your computer. You will then have all the necessary information on your computer to enable you to follow the lessons.

General Instructions

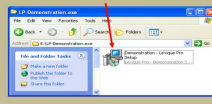
- Click means you click the left mouse button once.
- Double click means you click the left mouse button twice.
- Icon means a little picture that represents a program on your computer.

(any other instructions can be inserted here)

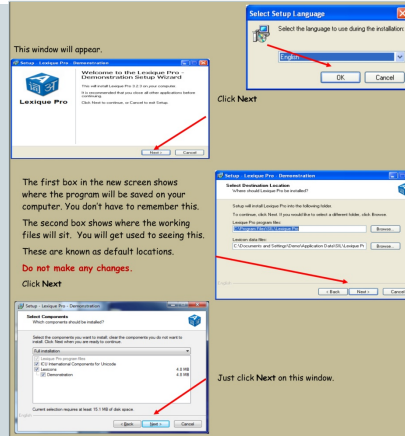
To begin

- Insert the CD into your computer.
- If CD doesn't start automatically, go to START, MY COMPUTER and click on your CD drive.
- Choose **Demonstration-Lexique Pro Setup**.

This window will open. Double click on the icon to open it.



Click OK for English



This window will appear. Click Next

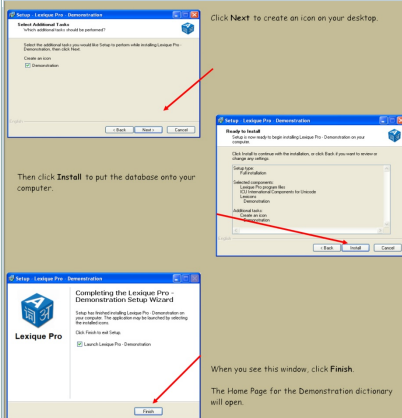
The first box in the new screen shows where the program will be saved on your computer. You don't have to remember this. The second box shows where the working files will sit. You will get used to seeing this. These are known as default locations. Do not make any changes. Click Next

Just click Next on this window.

You will see the following window next.

Lesson 1 Page 2

Lesson 1

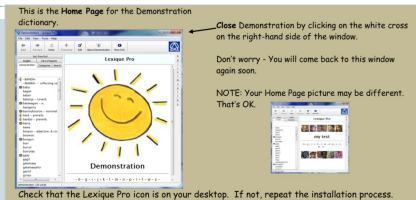


Click Next to create an icon on your desktop.

Then click Install to put the database onto your computer.

When you see this window, click Finish. The Home Page for the Demonstration dictionary will open.

Lesson 1 Page 3



This is the Home Page for the Demonstration dictionary

Close Demonstration by clicking on the white cross on the right-hand side of the window.

Don't worry - You will come back to this window again soon.

NOTE: Your Home Page picture may be different. That's OK.

Check that the Lexique Pro icon is on your desktop. If not, repeat the installation process.

This is the Lexique Pro icon that should be on your desktop. Double click on it to open the Demonstration dictionary. Have a go now to make sure it is all working properly.

- You can now:
- Find Lexique Pro installation file on the CD
 - Install a Lexique Pro database on your computer
 - Open an existing lexicon database (Demonstration)



In the next lesson you will learn to get around the dictionary.

What now?

- Return to the main Lesson 1 folder.
- In the document called 'Assessment 1' you will find some exercises to help you become familiar with the program. Do these exercises before moving to Lesson 2.

Lesson 1 Page 4