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MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF HUNGARIAN/FINNISH BILINGUAL LEXICOGRAPHY

With 5.3 million speakers Finnish is the 22nd most widely spoken European language. In comparison with similar-sized European languages, the number and quality of Hungarian–Finnish bilingual dictionaries is impressive. There are, for example, few Danish, Norwegian, Lithuanian or Catalan bilingual Hungarian dictionaries available, and even Portuguese, Swedish or Belarusian, each with some 10 million speakers, remain far behind in this respect. The exceptional richness of Hungarian–Finnish bilingual lexicography stems from the fact that the languages are genetically related: indeed, Hungarian and Finnish are the two biggest languages in the Finno-Ugric (Uralic) language family. Since the 19th century both languages have formed an obligatory, or at least an optional, part of Finnish and Hungarian university courses. Major universities in both countries have employed lecturers and maintained study programmes in the other language as well. The university teaching of Finnish in Budapest and Hungarian in Helsinki began in the 1860s and the first grammars, language books and dictionaries began to appear about this time.¹ Hungarian learners of Finnish have been interested primarily in historical linguistics and in the *Kalevala*, the Finnish national folk epic. In the 20th century the interest of the students in the Uralic languages have become more diverse, but Hungarian and Finnish are still mainly studied as a part of Finno-Ugric linguistics. This article deals with seven bilingual dictionaries, examining their place among dictionaries, their target groups and their

¹ **Hungarian for Finns:** SZINNYEI József – Antti JALAVA (1880) *Unkarin kielen oppikirja*, SZINNYEI József – Matti KIVEKÁS (1912) *Unkarin kielen oppikirja*, N. SEBESTYÉN Irén (1931) *Unkarin kielen opas*, LAKÓ György (1937) *Unkarin lukemisto*, ZONGOR Endre (1942) *Unkarin kielen oppikirja*, LAVOTHA Ödön – Viljo TERVONEN (1961) *Unkarin oppikirja*, NYIRKOS István (1965) *Unkarin lukemisto sanastoineen*, SZABÓ László (1969) *Käytännön unkaria*, NYIRKOS István (1972) *Nykyunkarin oppikirja*, SZENTE Imre (1975) *Unkarin alkeet*, MÁRK Tamás (1978–80) *Tessék magyarul! I–II*, CSÚCS Sándor (1982) *Unkarin alkeet*, KERESZTES László (1983) *Jó napot!* GEREVICH Éva – CSEPREGI Márta (1989) *Unkaria suomalaisille* and (1990) *Lisää unkaria suomalaisille*, VARGA Judit (1995) *Gyere velem! Unkarin kielen jatko-oppikirja*, Kaija MARKUS – VECSENYÉS Ildikó – Irene WICHMANN (2001) *Unkaria helposti 1. Hungarian Grammars in Finnish:* SZINNYEI József (1912) *Unkarin kielioppi*, KERESZTES László (1974) *Unkarin kieli*, CSEPREGI Márta (1991) *Unkarin kielioppi. Miscellaneous:* BÁTHORY Ágnes – S. VARGA Pál (1993) *Fonetikai gyakorlatok finnneknek – Unkarin kielen ääntämysharjoituksia*, BÁTHORY Ágnes (1996) *Mi újság? Lexikai gyakorlatok gyűjteménye*, TÖRÖK Ilona – Lassi MÄKINEN (1999) *77 magyar ige 707 igekötős alakja finn megfelelőikkel. Finnish for Hungarians:* FÁBIÁN István (1859) *Finn nyelvten*, HUNFALVY Pál (1861) *Finn olvasmányok*, BUDENZ József (1880) *Finn nyelvten* (3rd revised edition co-authored by József Szinnyei in 1894), SZINNYEI József (1895) *Finn olvasókönyv*, PAPP István (1959) *Finn olvasókönyv szójegyzéssel*, (1956) *Finn nyelvten*, (1957) *Finn nyelvkönyv*, (1966) *Finn kresztomátia*, (1967) *A finn nyelv alapelemei*, SZ. KISPÁL Magdolna – NORONEN, Minne – F. MÉSZÁROS Henrietta (1964) *Finn nyelv*, MÁRK Tamás (1977) *Finn társalgási zsebkönyv*, KARANKO-PAP, Outi – VILKUNA, Maria – KERESZTES László (1980) *Finn nyelvkönyv*, CSEPREGI Márta (1985) *A finn mint rokon nyelv*, KISS Antal (1986) *Finn, I. évf. magyar szakosoknak*, KARANKO, Outi – KERESZTES László – KNIIVILÄ, Irmeli (1985, 1996) *Finn nyelvkönyv 1.* and (1990) *Finn nyelvkönyv 2.*, DAVIES, Helena – KOVÁCS Ottília (1999) *Kezdők finn nyelvkönyve*, RÉVAY Valéria (ed.) – BOGÁR Edit – Anja HAAPARANTA – NOVOTNY Júlia (2006) *Finn nyelv magyar szakosoknak* (e-book), SÁNDOR Andrea (2010) *Finn társalgási zsebkönyv*, MATICSÁK Sándor – Anna TARVAINEN (2000) *Finn nyelv* (4th, revised edition 2010).

scope and range. Furthermore, the inclusion and translations of special word groups, such as culturally bound expressions and names in the dictionaries are reviewed. Finally, the grammatical information included in the entries and the appendices are analysed.

Even though English is increasingly taking over as the sole international language, Finnish and Hungarian are still relatively popular foreign languages both in Hungary and in Finland. Unfortunately, their linguistic kinship is of little help in learning these languages (although the shared typological agglutinative character of the languages helps to some extent). Hungarian may be helpful only in the case of some 250–300 words of the oldest Finno-Ugric core vocabulary. You can always raise a smile in Finland by mentioning such Finnish–Hungarian cognates as Finnish *kala* ~ Hungarian *hal* ‘fish’, *käsi* ~ *kéz* ‘hand’, *vesi* ~ *víz* ‘water’, *neljä* ~ *négy* ‘four’, *elä-* ~ *él-* ‘live’. However, since modern Hungarian and Finnish are as distant from each other as Portuguese is from Norwegian, or Greek from Swedish, the cognates will not help a Hungarian to get by in Finland today. On the other hand, Finnish remains rather reluctant to borrow international expressions, which might pose a challenge for the tourist, who first arrives at the *lentokenttä* ‘airport’, then looks for the *keskusta* ‘(city) centre’ or the *rautatieasema* ‘railway station’. If one is hungry, one needs to look for a *ravintola* ‘restaurant’, where one might order *poronkäristys* ‘sautéed reindeer’ and *olut* ‘beer’.

All the bilingual dictionaries have been the work of Hungarian linguists. For some reason Finns have so far served only as reviewers and consultants. Even though distinguished linguists have edited the dictionaries, their use remains problematic for language learners even today. Both Finnish and Hungarian have an extensive case system (at least 15 each) and the better dictionaries indicate both singular and plural genitive endings, because various changes take place in word stems in inflection. The Finnish monolingual learner’s dictionary (NURMI 1999) also provides the form of the illative case. Even though the system of stem changes and inflection is systematically described in grammars and textbooks, it is sometimes easier to memorize forms word by word. A verb entry may provide the first person present and past active forms, sometimes followed by the past participle and passive. A further problem is consonant gradation, an alternation involving voiceless stops which operates as follows: quantitative e.g. *kukka* [nominative]: *kukan* [genitive] ‘flower’, qualitative e.g. *sata* [nom.]: *sadan* [gen.] ‘hundred’, or assimilative e.g. *ranta* [nom.]: *rannan* [gen.]. In other words, it is often far from easy to track down the dictionary entry from an inflected form. The dictionaries have developed different practices to overcome this and other problems, as discussed below.

In what follows, only general bilingual dictionaries are dealt with, specialized bilingual dictionaries or vocabularies for special use are not covered here.

József Szinnyei: Finnish–Hungarian dictionary (1884)

The first bilingual Finnish–Hungarian dictionary was published by the distinguished Finno-Ugrist József Szinnyei in 1884. His renowned teacher József Budenz had already begun work on a Finnish–Hungarian–German dictionary in the 1860s, although only the letters A, E and H were completed. Instead, Budenz published a path-breaking grammar

with a reader and a vocabulary in 1880. Both works served as important sources for Szinnyei.

Szinnyei states in his detailed foreword that the dictionary of some 15,000 entries was originally compiled for linguists. His goal was “to provide a dictionary for Hungarians involved in Finnish studies that would enable them to read Finnish folklore, modern fiction, historical and linguistic works, as well as newspapers. There is little need for anything else.” Presenting the colloquial language was not an aim of this dictionary; in the 19th century the distance between Finland and Hungary was considerable. There is no technical or specialist terminology included either. This was a sensible decision, bearing in mind that during the 1880s Finnish scientific terminology was still evolving. Compared with later dictionaries, the language of Finnish folklore and the *Kalevala*, in particular, is well represented. Thus, there are several entries that did not become a part of standard Finnish, for instance *haahitta*- ‘to make something appear through howling’. However, Szinnyei’s dictionary will be useful even today for anyone wishing to understand any of the many works deriving from the *Kalevala*, such as the poetry of Eino Leino or the folk music lyrics of Loituma and Värttinä.

Szinnyei’s main source was Elias Lönnrot’s Finnish–Swedish dictionary (1874–1880). Other sources included bilingual Finnish–Latin and German–Latin dictionaries, word lists from folklore, folk tales, lists of proverbs and sayings, poetry and the literary works of Aleksis Kivi. Szinnyei had spent one year in Finland, learning the language on the spot and gathering material for his dictionary. However, Szinnyei clearly relied on previous dictionaries or other sources whenever possible (folklore sources are even cited in the entries).

Szinnyei’s entries present the forms “which are most common in the literary language”, e.g. *kaunii*- and not *kaunihi*- ‘pretty’. Since most of his sources date back to before the widespread standardization of the language, not to mention folklore, there are naturally a number of non-standard or regional expressions, especially from the eastern dialects, for instance: *askaroitse* (standard: *askaroi* ‘occupy oneself’), *evelä* (standard: *ovela* ‘clever’).

The composer of the *Kalevala*, Elias Lönnrot, was also responsible for the cornerstone of Finnish lexicography, a Finnish–Swedish dictionary with 200,000 entries. Lönnrot’s dictionary meticulously documents old written Finnish and folklore. However, Lönnrot was also a language cultivator and so included words that he himself had created. In addition, he created all the possible derivatives of a word, some of which exist purely at the level of theory. Budenz noticed that some expressions verged on the ridiculous, e.g. *aasistua* ‘to become donkey-like’ (HAKULINEN 1967: 103) and certainly alerted his student Szinnyei to guard against Lönnrot’s excesses. Nevertheless, Szinnyei includes *sikamastu*-/*sikastu*- ‘to become somewhat big’, or *siistikkää*, *-ikäs* ‘refined’ and *siistittömä*, *-itön* ‘untidy’. Szinnyei has a detailed discussion of the question of derivatives in his foreword. He gives a three-page list of suffixes “that can be understood with ease, if we know the meaning of the stem and the function of the suffix”. Szinnyei’s dictionary already illuminates the basic problem of Finnish–Hungarian lexicography: which are the conventional, regular derivatives (e.g. *elä/mä* ‘life’, *pappi/la* ‘parish’, *liha/va* ‘fat’, which belong in every dictionary), which are of an *ad hoc* character, and which owe their presence in dictionaries only to Lönnrot’s doubtful examples.

The use of previous dictionaries and the emphasis on folklore had the consequence that the dictionary has several entries, such as *asso* ‘soft’, that were already archaic at the time of publication. However, for linguists, such words offer precious information on the past of the Finnish language. In the case of loan words, Szinnyei also provides an etymology; for example, in the case of *sisar* ‘sister’ that it is of Lithuanian origin. The dictionary does not contain scientific or technical loan words. A unique feature of the dictionary is that Szinnyei added a question mark after a gloss of which he was uncertain, e.g.: *sian-nappi* csömör (?) ‘surfeit’.

The entries are in alphabetical order, with homonyms treated as separate entries. Meanings are distinguished by ordinal numbers. However, some meanings given as synonyms, appear rather remote from each other: for instance: *etsimys* is given the following, by no means synonymous equivalents: *megkeresés*, *csapás* ‘seeking out, disaster’. Entries are mostly short, clustering being employed only in the case of compound words. They are usually ordered according to their first element. However, some compounds appear according to their second element, because “they occurred to me only after the first part was already printed”.

Some entries are longer, because they include several meanings and examples. Folklore examples are not always translated, for instance *etu... olisi mulla onni ollut, etu muutenki eleä* (Kant. 208. b). Causative and similar verb forms and diminutive noun forms are not translated separately, rather abbreviations such as *kaus.*, *dim.* indicate their meaning. For instance: *sito-* kötni ‘tie’ || [...] *sidellä* frequ. | *sidotta-* caus. | *sitaise* [...] mom. [...] | *sitoutu-* med; *lekötelezni magát* ‘commit oneself to’. This clearly shows that the dictionary was intended primarily for readers with linguistic expertise. Finally, Szinnyei attempts to save space by abbreviating the *-nen* (*-ainen*, *-einen*, *-oinen* etc.) suffix as = *n*. For instance, *verinen* ‘bloody’ is abbreviated as *verise = n*. This curious practice was not followed by later lexicographers.

The entries are given in their stem form. In addition, Szinnyei gives the first nominative forms of nouns and the infinitive of verbs, too. For instance, *örise-*, inf. *-stä* ‘growl’, *hirve-*, *-vi* ‘elk’. This unconventional practice has the advantage that the various inflected forms (*örisen*, *öriset*, *örisee*, *öristään*; *hirven*, *hirvellä*, *hirvenä* etc.) can be traced more easily to the word stem than to the nominative or infinitive, which are the traditional entry forms in Indo-European and Finnish dictionaries. However, Szinnyei’s practice gives a rather misleading picture of the system of Finnish word stems, comparable to having *háza-* ‘house’, *hala-* ‘fish’ as entries in Hungarian dictionaries, rather than the usual forms *ház*, *hal*. This practice found no followers.

The dictionary ends with lists of first names and geographical names. Finnish first names are provided with Hungarian equivalents, as was typical at the time. A number of archaic first names are given a Hungarian equivalent, such as *Pärtyli* = Bertalan and *Tiila* = Ottília. Some names from the *Kalevala* are glossed: e.g. *Kullervo* ‘bugler’, *Kyllikki* ‘one who does not feel good at home’, and *Aino* ‘the only one’. Oddly, some Hungarian “equivalents” are in fact Swedish (*Helsinki* – *Helsingfors*) or German (*Tallinna* – *Reval*) forms. The archaic *Turja* is given as the name of Norwegian Lappland.

Gyula Weöres: Hungarian–Finnish dictionary (1934)

Szinnyei's Finnish–Hungarian work was followed by a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary in 1934. The editor, Gyula Weöres, wrote in his foreword: "There has been no Hungarian–Finnish dictionary to this day, except for vocabularies in Finnish grammars of Hungarian. To fill this gap, I have prepared this pocket dictionary primarily to serve the needs of the Finnish public. The dictionary covers only words and expressions that are in general use in literature and the everyday spoken language." The small, 280-page dictionary meets its goals rather well. (Weöres was lecturer in Hungarian at the University of Helsinki between 1925 and 1942 and so must have had an excellent command of Finnish).

The dictionary, with some 9,000 entries, groups derivatives and compounds into a single entry, so it contains far more words than entries. To have the derivatives under one entry saves space, thus making the work truly pocket size. On the other hand, it makes life more difficult for the language learner. For instance, the derivatives of *fej* 'head' end up in three entries (*fej/alj*, *-csóválva*, *-dísz*; *feje/sség*, *-tlen*, *-zet*; *fej/fa*, *-fájás*, *-hang*, *-kötő*, *-léc*), with the entries *fejedelem*, *fejel*, *fejenként*, *fejér*, *fejes*, *fejés* coming between them. In addition, words with the initial element *fő*- 'head' are located in seven different entries. A further space-saving device, using a slash after a pseudo-stem (for instance: *péld/a*, *-a/beszéd*, *-álózik*, *-ány*, *-ás*, *-átlan*; *patt/an*, *-og*; *külön/c*, *-féle*, *-ítvány*, *-leges*, *-ös*; *zsibba/d*, *-szt*, for *példabeszéd*, *példálózik*, *példány*, *példás*, *példátlan* etc.), may well confuse the Finnish user about the nature of the Hungarian word stem. A final oddity resulting from such bunching is that several word classes are pooled, for instance *vendég* 'guest', *-fogadó* 'house', *-látás* 'visit', *-szerepel* 'to perform', *-szeretet* 'hospitality' and *-lő* 'inn', *-lős* 'restaurateur', *-ség* 'visit'.

The dictionary contains many expressions and phrases, too. In such cases, the entries are not replaced by the conventional tilde (~) sign. Instead, Weöres gives the first letter of the word, for instance: *élet* 'life': *é-ben van* 'he is alive', *é-be lép* 'to take effect', *é-e forog kockán* 'his life is at stake', *é-et él* 'live one's life', *é-halál harc* 'struggle for life and death', *é-re kel* 'come to life'. Unsurprisingly this practice, too, has not been followed by later dictionaries.

The vocabulary of the dictionary is surprisingly up-to-date and can cope fairly well even with the 21st century. The Finnish equivalents are excellent, too. Eighty years is, however, a lot of time and there is certainly some older or archaic vocabulary, such as *ágyasság* 'concubinage', *bagária* 'Muscovy leather', *balog* 'left-handed', *burkus* 'Prussian', *eszmétársulás* 'association', *sajka* '(small) boat', *ürmös* 'vermouth', *vevény* 'receipt' or *vörheny* 'scarlet fever'.

The dictionary offers no morphological information, which is quite reasonable in a pocket dictionary. Perhaps there could have been an appendix with inflectional paradigms. Weöres somewhat unnecessarily indicates the word class of the entry, since it can be easily deduced from the Finnish equivalent. There is a very brief appendix in the dictionary offering Finnish equivalents for Hungarian first names. Some of these are reasonable (*Antal* ~ *Antti*, *Henrik* ~ *Heikki*, *Kristóf* ~ *Risto*, *Krisztina* ~ *Kirsti*, *Tamás* ~ *Tuomo*, *Zsuzsánna* ~ *Sanna*), but others seem merely amusing today (*Aladár* ~ *Olodarus*, *Árpád* ~ *Arpadus*, *Lázár* ~ *Latsarus*, *Lóránt* ~ *Orlando*). One imagines an ancient Finn Arpadus...

István Papp: Finnish–Hungarian dictionary (1962)

The intensive Hungarian–Finnish contacts of the interwar period came to a halt during the Rákosi era of the late 1940s and early 1950s. Towards the end of the 1950s cultural cooperation was renewed and the first scholarships for Hungarians to visit Finland were awarded in the early 1960s. Translations of literature in both directions increased and cultural and scholarly exchange agreements were drawn up. This all was possible thanks to Finland’s special position between the Eastern and the Western political camps. In this situation there was an urgent need to finally produce a more up-to-date and significantly bigger Finnish–Hungarian dictionary than Szinnyei’s of 1884. The leading figure in Hungarian Finnish studies, István Papp, chair of the Hungarian linguistics department at Debrecen’s Kossuth Lajos University, took up the challenge and published several landmark works for learning Finnish at this time. He was hailed for his outstanding Finnish–Hungarian dictionary. As Tibor MIKOLA concluded (1963: 207): “The dictionary by István Papp will make the use of intermediary languages unnecessary and undoubtedly increase interest in Finnish.” For its first three printings, the dictionary had a dark blue cover; only the fourth (1993) acquired the colours of the Finnish flag. (It is most regrettable that no changes or up-dates were permitted in the later printings. This once-superb dictionary was painfully outdated even by the 1990s).

This 1100-page dictionary contains about 49,000 entries. István Papp used the six-volume Dictionary of Modern Finnish (*Nykysuomen sanakirja*, 1951–1961) as his main source. This first monolingual reference work with 200,000 entries was the second cornerstone of Finnish lexicography and is perhaps still the most significant work of Finnish lexicography today. Papp’s basic material was the word stock of written standard Finnish. However, there is a wealth of vernacular expressions and jargons, too. While the dictionary was undoubtedly up-to-date at the time of publication, some expressions are now alien to university students today (which would not be a problem, if the unrevised reissues were not still on sale today). For instance, the following now have an archaic feel: *hiilestys* ‘coaling’, *hirvenhiihtäjä* ‘elk hunter (on skis)’, *ilmoitustoimisto* ‘advertising office’, *imisä* ‘sow’, *sueta* ‘come about’, *virma* ‘fire’, *elfenluu* ‘ivory’.

The foreword does not address the problem of derivatives and compound words as entries. However, as the discussion of Szinnyei’s dictionary demonstrated, this is a significant issue for Finnish lexicography. Unless strict principles are applied, derivatives and compounds can easily overwhelm the dictionary. This is indeed what happened to a certain extent to Papp’s dictionary. However, Papp inherited this shortcoming from *Nykysuomen sanakirja* and so had little chance of avoiding this pitfall. In other words, the derived and compound entries are too often of an *ad hoc* nature and ponderous. It is no wonder that later Finnish dictionaries have dropped the following entries: *armahtamattomuus* ‘mercilessness’, *armeliaisuustoiminta* ‘charity’, *asianajajatemppu* ‘lawyer’s trick’, *atomipommihyökkäys* ‘atom bomb attack’, *hiihtoherruus* ‘supremacy in skiing’, *kasvienruiskutusaine* ‘herbicide’, *kirjallisuuden-historioitsija* ‘literary historian’, *laskeutumiskehoitus* ‘landing command’. For each of these google.fi gives less than 10 results, indicating that contemporary Finnish tends to avoid such words.

Papp recognized that dialects are still widely used in Finland. The use of dialect speech in fiction was enhanced by the new “national epic” *Tuntematon sotilas* (*The*

Unknown Soldier, 1954) by Väinö Linna. The second appendix to the dictionary presents the so-called reflexive verb inflection, which was characteristic of eastern dialects and the *Kalevala*, but obsolete in the standard. There are some entries that are, very rightly, defined as dialect, for instance, *haastaa* ‘speak’, *orpana* ‘cousin’, *kyty* ‘sister-in-law’, *tumppu* ‘mitten’. Even though these words are not standard Finnish, they are widely used regionally and in some literature.

A good dictionary, such as Papp’s work, is able to pass on a wealth of cultural information. Among others, major terms in Finnish war history are covered: *talvisota* ‘the Winter War (30 November 1939 – 13 March 1940)’, *jatkosota* ‘the Continuation War (1941–44)’, *nuijasota* ‘the Cudgel War’ (a peasant uprising defeated by Governor-General Clas Fleming in the winter of 1596–97) and *lotta* ‘lotta’ (a member of a Finnish voluntary paramilitary auxiliary organization for women, especially active during World War II, but abolished thereafter). Furthermore, *sauna* and *kantele* are well-explained. Mythological names, such as *Ahtola* ‘the palace of the god of the sea’, are covered.

An essential, culture-specific element of any language consists of food and beverage names. The Hungarian tourist can easily be caught off-guard in this area. Papp has *mämmi* ‘Easter pudding made of rye malt’, *kalakukko* ‘a pasty, comprising meat, fish, potato etc. baked inside bread dough’, *puuro* ‘porridge’, *maksamakkara* ‘liver sausage’. However, the culinary nightmare (for Hungarians), *maksalaatikko* ‘liver casserole with raisins etc.’ is missing, as is *lanttulaatikko* ‘turnip casserole’. Other Finnish specialties one seeks in vain are *karjalanpiirakka* ‘Karelian pasty’, *leipäjuusto* ‘“squeaky” cheese’, *kermaviili* ‘curd cream’, *mustamakkara* ‘black blood sausage from Tampere’. Finally, two important Finnish beverages, *sima* ‘mead’ and *(koti)kalja* ‘fermented drink of malt and sugar’ are included. However, the Finnish user would have appreciated some wine terminology, such as *hapokas* ‘acetic’ or *jalohome* ‘noble rot’.

Finland is the “country of a thousand lakes” (in fact, there are close to 200,000 lakes in Finland). Thus, fish are essential elements of Finnish cuisine. *Karppi* ‘carp’, *monni* ‘sheatfish’ and *hauki* ‘pike’ are well known in Hungary, too. Examples of less familiar fish in the dictionary are *kuha* ‘sander’, *lahna* ‘bream’, *made* ‘burbot’ and *särki* ‘roach’. The difference between *silli* ‘herring’ and *silakka* ‘Baltic herring’ will be beyond most Hungarians. Finally, it goes without saying that *lohi* ‘salmon’ is included.

Changes in Finnish society have of course affected its lexicon. Among others, feminist Finnish linguists have stressed that the male gender should not be used as the unmarked form. Thus, marking the female gender with the feminine suffix *-tAr*, especially in occupations (e.g. *opettaja* ‘teacher’ *opettajatar* ‘teacher-FEM’, *laulaja* ‘singer’ – *laulajatar* ‘singer-FEM’), has become obsolete. According to Mila ENGELBERG (1998), there were 77 entries with the suffix *-tAr* in the catalogue of Finnish occupations in 1950 but only one in 1990 (*myyjätär* ‘saleslady’). Dictionaries in general had similar collections of the feminine suffix in the 1960s. Papp included some that have endured: *kaunotar* ‘beauty’, *rakastajatar* ‘mistress’. Some expressions, still in use, have pejorative meanings: *seikkailijatar* ‘adventuress’, *viettelijätär* ‘seductress’. Somewhat archaic or romantic are mythological figures: *aallotar* ‘mermaid’, *hallatar* ‘frost fairy’, *hengetär* ‘guardian fairy’, *luonnotar* ‘nymph’, *raivotar* ‘fury’, *sulotar* ‘grace’ and *syöjätär* ‘gorgon’. The following occupational terms in Papp’s dictionary have been stripped of their *-tAr* suffix since the time of its publication: *hoitajatar* ‘nurse’, *keittäjätär* ‘cook-FEM’, *kotiopettajatar* ‘tutoress’, *maalajatar* ‘paintress’, *ompelijatar* ‘seamstress’, *runoilijatar* ‘poetess’, *siivoojatar* ‘cleaning lady’.

Papp also provides a wealth of abbreviations and acronyms, some of which are now faintly amusing. Beyond the usual *jne.* = *ja niin edespäin* ‘etc.’, *mm.* = *muun/muiden muassa* ‘inter alia’, *ks.* = *katso* ‘v.’, we learn that *KTA* stands for *kone- ja traktoriasema* ‘machine and tractor station’. The zeitgeist is summed up in *SDPL* = *Suomen Demokraattinen Pioneerien Liitto* ‘The Democratic Union of Finnish Pioneers’, *SNL*, *SNTL* = *Sosialististen Neuvostotasavaltojen Liitto* ‘USSR’, and *SKP* = *Suomen Kommunistinen Puolue* ‘The Communist Party of Finland’.

The dictionary includes many first names. As Papp writes in his foreword, these are included “even though there is often no Hungarian equivalent”. From a contemporary perspective, it would have been better to consign these to an appendix and perhaps the goal of giving Hungarian “equivalents” at all costs could have been abandoned. Fortunately, Papp often failed to meet his goal, for instance *Kostia*, *Kuisma*, *Rauno* and *Kotivalo*, *Laila*, *Maire*, *Outi* are glossed simply as ‘male names’ and ‘female names’. However, some ‘equivalents’ are rather amusing today: *Kristian* ~ *Keresztély*, *Ludvig* ~ *Lajos*, *Timo* ~ *Timót*. The speaking names from the *Kalevala* are given explanations (*Tapio* ‘king of forests’), though names with vulgar associations are not (*Yrjö* > *yrjö* ‘puke’, *Tauno* > *tauno* ‘idiot’ etc.). Because of their frequent use in fiction, names with ‘overtones’ could have been given more space.

The presentation of geographical names is a welcome feature of Papp’s dictionary. To begin with, international place names are often assimilated to Finnish phonology and orthography: *Lontoo* ‘London’, *Pariisi* ‘Paris’, *Kiova* ‘Kiev’, *Moskova* ‘Moscow’, *Pietari* ‘St. Petersburg’ and *Krakova* ‘Cracow’. When place-names are translated, they are even more essential: *Kapkaupunki* ‘Cape Town’, *Pohjanlahti* ‘The Gulf of Bothnia’, *Itämeri* ‘The Baltic Sea’ etc. Finally, the Estonian capital is given in the Russian-influenced form *Tallin* in Hungarian.

Morphological classes are indicated by raised index numbers attached to entries. Following the Finnish monolingual dictionary, Papp groups nouns into 85 inflectional types (31 with one stem, 54 with two) and verbs into 45 types (23 with one stem and 22 with two). In the appendix, the following forms of the noun are given: singular genitive, essive, partitive and illative, as well as plural genitive, partitive and illative (the essive is rather unnecessary). For verb inflection types, the present singular first person, Sg3rd past, Sg3rd conditional and Sg3rd imperative are presented (the last is fairly peripheral and Pl2nd imperative would have been more useful). In addition, the perfect participle and past passive forms are given. This framework of presenting the system of Finnish stems was a dogma in Hungary for some decades after the dictionary, but has since become unfashionable due to its complexity. Consonant gradation is shown by an asterisk. This is a good idea. Nevertheless, the learner could have been further helped by giving the more complicated examples in the appendix, especially in the case of ‘inverted gradation’. For instance the entry *maata* ‘to lie’ is marked 35 with an asterisk (*) leading to *salata* ‘to hide’ in the appendix. However, it would take a linguistic genius to locate the first person singular *makaan* on the basis of *salaan*...

To sum up, István Papp’s masterwork filled a huge gap. At the time of publication, it had an admirably wide lexicon, a wealth of excellent examples and the most up-to-date approach to language. It is undoubtedly a beacon in Finnish–Hungarian lexicography. However, times, language and lexicography change, and it is not, of course, the author’s fault that it took 45 years for the next Finnish–Hungarian dictionary to appear.

István Nyirkos: Hungarian–Finnish dictionary (1969)

The expansion of Finnish–Hungarian contacts demanded the production of a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary as well. The 1934 dictionary of Gyula Weöres was out-of-date and difficult to find. Furthermore, its concise character made it inadequate in many respects. This gap was filled by the work of István Nyirkos, a noted professor at the University of Debrecen, when he was lecturing in Hungarian at the University of Helsinki. Nyirkos began by preparing a Hungarian reader with a 140-page vocabulary, which he then expanded into a 380-page Hungarian–Finnish dictionary; this appeared in Helsinki in 1969. Having a reader as the basis of the dictionary was an excellent idea, because it included several genres: folklore, poetry, fiction, as well as scholarly texts.

The new dictionary was suitable for the communicative learning of modern Hungarian. It includes several expressions that were new in the 1960s: *bruttó* ‘gross’, *diákmenza* ‘university canteen’, *expresszlevél* ‘express letter’, *felhőkarcoló* ‘skyscraper’, *fotoripoter* ‘photojournalist’, *frottírtörülköző* ‘terry towel’, *gemkapocs* ‘paper clip’, *görcsolya* ‘roller-skates’, *műhold* ‘satellite’, *öngyújtó* ‘cigarette lighter’, *plüss* ‘soft [toy, etc.]’, *repülőposta* ‘airmail’, *sztanol* ‘tin foil’ and *villanyvonat* ‘electric train’ (however, *önkiszolgáló* ‘self-service [restaurant]’ is missing). Typically, some socialist jargon is included, for example, compounds with *nép-* ‘people’: *népbüfé* ‘[state-owned] lunch counter’, *-oktatás* ‘public education’, *-szeretet* ‘love of the people’, *-tulajdon* ‘people’s property’ etc. There is also a fine set with *párt-* ‘[Communist] party’. Fortunately, Nyirkos did not go too far in this respect.

Some archaic words were included because they occur in the older texts of the reader. For instance, *cipőkenőcs* ‘shoe cream’, *cserez* ‘tan (leather)’, *fekbér* ‘demurrage’, *nyelvtisztogató* ‘purist (in language)’, *keserv* ‘grievance’. A certain amount of cultural information is included. Hungarian specialities, such as *betyár*, *csárda*, *gémeskút*, *hajdú*, *krajcár*, *kuruc*, *országbíró*, *pityke*, *székely*, *végvár* are explained and even the Hungarian character *Hüvelyk Matyi* ‘Tom Thumb’ is introduced. It is likewise important to tell Finns that Hungarian *első emelet* ‘first floor’ is in Finnish actually ‘toinen kerros’, that is, second floor. The dictionary contains a wealth of linguistic terms, which is a good thing, in that Hungarian is often studied by linguists. However, some of the linguistic terms could have been better placed in a separate appendix (*allativus*, *dativus*, *instrumentalis-comitativus* etc). Nyirkos includes colloquial expressions here and there (*cucli* ‘(baby’s) dummy’, *dutyi* ‘lock-up’, *hejh* ‘heigh-ho’, *zsupsz* ‘oops’), which is a welcome, if somewhat unsystematic, innovation. Finally, there are a (very) few abbreviations, e.g. *ENSz* ‘UN’.

In the matter of first names, Nyirkos follows Weöres. That is, at times he gives only the gender of the name, for instance *Béla* ‘male name’, *Tünde* ‘female name’. At times Finnish ‘equivalents’ are given: *Anna* ~ *Anna*, *Júlia* ~ *Julia*, *Judit* ~ *Juudit*. Unfortunately, some unsuitable, faintly humorous ones remain: *Bertalan* ~ *Perttu*, *Pertti*, *Dezső* ~ *Desiderius*, *Győző* ~ *Vihtori*, *Imre* ~ *Emerik*, *Manó* ~ *Emanuel*.

Among the geographical names there are some innovations. For instance *Balaton* ‘a lake in Hungary’ (the German version *Plattensee* is also provided), *Dunántúl* ‘Beyond the Danube’, in English Transdanubia, German Transdanubien’ (but there is no *Tiszántúl*), *Erdély* ‘Transylvania (German Siebenbürgen)’. However, there was no reason to include *Mecsek* with the explanation ‘mountain range’ or *Eger* ‘place name’ since the explanations leave the Finnish user in the dark. Foreign names are well

documented, from Albania to the Alps and Vienna (Bécs) to Geneva (Genf) and via Copenhagen (Koppenhága) and Paris (Párizs) to the Urals.

The entries display no information on word inflection, which is as it is to be expected in a small dictionary. The entries are well organized, with homonyms clearly separated. Further, literary and abstract uses are kept apart. For instance, *büntető* ‘penalty’: *dobás* ‘free throw’, *rúgás* ‘penalty kick’, *tábor* ‘prison camp’, *törvénykönyv* ‘penal code’. The dictionary’s presentation of idioms and collocations is excellent, for instance *ész* ‘mind’: *~be kap* ‘suddenly realize’, *esze ágában sincs* ‘he doesn’t have the slightest intention to’, *megáll az eszem* ‘I am flabbergasted’, *nincs ~nél* ‘he is out of his mind’, *többet észszel, mint erővel* ‘more brain than brawn’. To the user’s delight, several expressions are presented as independent entries. For instance *foganat*: *nincs ~ja* ‘have no effect’, *tapodtat*: *egy ~ sem enged* ‘not yield an inch’. Imperative forms *Éljen* ‘hooray’ and *nemulass* ‘look out for squalls!’ are given independent entries, as are *igyunk* ‘let’s have a drink!’ and *nőj* ‘grow!’, the latter ones just directing the user to the stem.

This excellent and up-to-date Hungarian–Finnish dictionary was soon superseded. In less than seven years, Nyirkos himself replaced it with a new dictionary, which has since then become *the* dictionary for Finnish friends of Hungary.

István Nyirkos: Finnish–Hungarian–Finnish pocket dictionary (1976)

István Nyirkos’s new Finnish–Hungarian–Finnish pocket dictionary (*Suomi–unkari–suomi taskusanakirja*) came out in a highly popular series of Finnish dictionaries. Its small size makes it easy to carry and its simple layout makes it easy to use for the tourist. This dictionary is in many respects a revised and expanded version of Nyirkos’s earlier work. It first appeared in 1976, with an update in 1996 and a further revision in 2000; the latest edition came out in 2009.

In the Hungarian–Finnish part, changes compared with the earlier dictionary include the merging of compounds into a single entry. This and other solutions made the dictionary more concise. Let’s take some examples beginning with *s*-. Previously the following compounds were independent entries: *sajtóattasé* ‘press attaché’, *sajtófőnök* ‘head of the information department’, *sajtóhiba* ‘misprint’, *sajtótájékoztató* ‘press conference’ and *sajtótudósító* ‘correspondent’. Now they are all conflated into one entry, *sajtó* in the form *sajtó/attasé*, *~főnök* etc. However, *sebességmérő* ‘speedometer’ and *sebességváltó* ‘gearshift’ are independent entries.

Further space is saved by merging homonyms. Nyirkos indicates word class (*s* = noun, *v* = verb), e.g. *sejt* (*s.*) ‘cell’; (*v.*) ‘suspect’; *sír* (*s.*) ‘grave’; (*v.*) ‘cry’. However, this is not a good idea, as semantically unrelated homonyms should be kept distinct. There are fewer illustrative examples in the entries than in the 1969 dictionary. For instance, *sarok* ‘corner’ retains only two of its five idioms and collocations, while *seb* ‘wound’ has only one example left out of the previous four. In at least one case, however, Nyirkos clearly threw out the baby with the bathwater: *spanyolviasz*, which is now used only in one idiom, is given the translation ‘sealing-wax’ and no examples. In fact, only the expression *nem ő találta fel a ~t* ‘he did not set the Thames on fire’ should have been given.

Some material has been omitted. We can well manage without *samánisztikus* ‘shamanistic’, *sebzetlen* ‘unwounded’, *selejtmentes* ‘waste-free’, *sirályvijjogás* ‘the cry of seagulls’, etc. Likewise it was a good idea to drop rarer examples such as *sarkantyúba kapta a lovát* ‘put a spur to one’s horse’. Other relatively rare items include such present participles as *sárguló* ‘yellowing’, *sistergő* ‘sizzling’, some linguistic terminology (*sociativus*, *sublativus*) and a few interjections (*sej*, *sejehaj*). However, *sakkozik* ‘play chess’, *sarkvidék* ‘polar regions’, *sóhajt* ‘sigh’, *sincs* ‘neither’ should not have been omitted. *Sasszem* ‘eagle eye’, *sebhelyes* ‘scarred’, *segélyez* ‘subsidize’ and *selejtes* ‘substandard’ are borderline cases and should perhaps have been retained. Instead, candidates for deletion ought to have included *sehonnai* ‘bad penny’, *silóz* ‘to silo’, *sparhert* ‘stove’ and *svindliz* ‘to swindle’. First names are part of history, so they could have been retained in an appendix. Finally, geographical names keep their deserved place.

The first edition has few new entries. Under the letter *s-* there is only one: *sarlatán* ‘charlatan’. There are, however, several modifications of equivalents. For instance, *serdülő*, previously translated by the cumbersome *nuoruusiässä oleva* ‘somebody who is young’, has been replaced by the up-to-date *teini-/murrosikäinen* ‘teenager, pubescent’.

From the point of view of the Finnish lexicon, István Nyirkos was the first academic to solve elegantly the problem of derivational suffixes and compounds. Nyirkos’s very brief foreword does not mention his Finnish sources, so it is unclear if he used a particular corpus or whether he just had a special knack for not including the overabundance of derivatives that characterized previous dictionaries (see the critique of István Papp’s work, above). The solution was not to simply leave out all longer derivatives and compounds. For instance, items such as *hiihtokeli* ‘skiing weather’, *hiihtokilpailu* ‘skiing competition’ and *hiihtoloma* ‘winter vacation’ are retained, not to mention the lengthy *sanomalehtikatsaus* ‘press review’, or the complex *toimettomuus* ‘inactivity’. Unfortunately, however, Nyirkos still left out some frequent yet problematic compounds with archaic elements, whose meaning thus cannot be easily deduced: *vanhempainilta* ‘parents’ meeting’, *kätkytkuolema* ‘cot death’ or even *vankeinhoitolaitos* ‘prison administration’. In the Finnish part, some important entries are missing, for instance culture-specific expressions such as *kaamos* ‘period of darkness’ and *ruska* ‘autumn colours’.

The newer ‘editions’ are mainly reprints. Even when changes have been carried out, they remain minor, at the (unfortunate) request of the publisher. However, the 2009 edition is much more user-friendly than the earlier one of 1976. It has a larger font and the entries are highlighted in bold. Also, compounds and homonyms now get their own entries, making the dictionary easier to browse. Nevertheless, the lexicon is in need of a major update. In the Hungarian side, under the letter *s-*, we find the following new expressions *saját maga* ‘he himself’, *sárgaborsó* ‘split yellow pea’ and *sárgadinnye* ‘honeydew melon’. No entries have been deleted, even the obsolete *sínautó* ‘railcar’, *sehonnai* ‘bad penny’ and *sparhert* ‘stove’ have survived the revisions. It is also very unfortunate that *Tallinn* is still erroneously given with a single *n* in Hungarian.

The newest version has deficiencies on the Finnish side, too. Among entries beginning with *l-*, the following are missing: *laadunvalvonta* ‘quality control’, *laajakaista* ‘broadband’, *lahjalista* ‘wish list’, *kirjasto-/lainaajankortti* ‘library card’, *lainaus* ‘citation, loan’, *laitahyökkääjä* ‘wing forward’, *laitosmies* ‘maintenance man’

and *laktoosi-intoleranssi* ‘lactose intolerance’. Room for these could have been made by dropping the following less frequent items with *l-*: *lahjapalkkio* ‘bonus’, *lainalause* ‘citation’, *laiskanvirka* ‘sinecure’, *laivanveistämö* ‘dockyard’ and *lakonrikkoja* ‘scab’. The dictionary is out-of-date in that it still merges ‘Romany’ with ‘novel’ in *romaani*, even though the translation of ‘Gypsy’ has for some decades been spelled *romani* in Finnish. Finally, even though all Hungarian–Finnish dictionary editors have so far been men, a linguist today is by no means invariably *kielimies* ‘language + man’ in Finnish, as Nyirkos claims in 2009; fortunately in the Finnish–Hungarian part, the entry for ‘linguist’ is *kielitietelijä*. The dictionary might still be a red flag to a Finnish feminist as long as entries such as *lastenhoitajatar* ‘nursery maid’, with their obsolescent feminine *-tar* suffixes, are retained.

The dictionary concludes with useful appendices, especially for the tourist (list of foods and beverages, a ‘Visit to Budapest’ and travel information). Nyirkos deals with the problem of the important culinary lexicon by providing a list of 519 Hungarian items. Some of these have straightforward Finnish equivalents (*alma* ~ *omena* ‘apple’, *borjú* ~ *vasikka* ‘veal’, *szőlő* ~ *viinirypäle* ‘grape’). Others have a Finnish name, but they are actually quite different dishes: *halászlé* ~ *kalakeitto* ‘chowder, fish soup’, *marhapörkölt* ~ *vatkuli* ‘beef stew’. Real problems are posed by Hungarian dishes that the average Finn has not even heard of. Nyirkos quite wisely does not aim at equivalents here; rather he attempts to explain them. Thus, the Finnish tourist gets an idea what *körömpörkölt* might be (according to Nyirkos, it is a kind of stew prepared from pig’s trotters) or *lecsó* (a dish of green paprika, tomatoes and onions). The list continues with items such as *májpgombócleves*, *fatányéros*, *kolozsvári káposzta*, *székelygulyás*, *tarhonya* and *Gundel palacsinta*. Hungarian drinks are not especially distinctive, perhaps only *tokaji aszú* and *fröccs* are Hungarian specialities. The Finnish list, similarly, has both international items (pineapple, lamb etc.) and traditional specialities, such as *kalakukko*, *maksalaatikko*, etc. (see the ‘culinary discussion’ in Papp’s Finnish–Hungarian dictionary). *Pizza* was first included in the dictionary in 1996.

The ‘Visit to Budapest’ appendix presents the experience of two tourists in Budapest. The usual topics are covered in the form of conversations (arrival, in the hotel, in a restaurant, in a cinema, visiting a museum, transport, shopping, in a bank etc). A better place for this appendix might have been in a language course-book.

The appendices include an inflectional chart. However, instead of a list of irregular verbs and nouns it would have been better to provide a complete display of Hungarian stems, since it is impossible to learn the Hungarian paradigms on the basis of the chart offered. The phonetic guide to the sounds of Hungarian is valuable, however. The dictionary ends with travel information (visa and customs regulations, useful addresses and opening hours), which might have been more useful in a travel guide than a dictionary. However, none of this diminishes the value of this dictionary as an outstanding practical guide to the two languages and cultures.

István Papp – László Jakab: Hungarian–Finnish dictionary (1985)

Immediately upon completing his Finnish–Hungarian dictionary, István Papp began to gather the corpus for a Hungarian–Finnish dictionary. He proceeded by inverting the Finnish–Hungarian dictionary, which provided some 45% of the new corpus for the

Hungarian–Finnish dictionary. Papp died suddenly, eerily just after editing the entry *elszelel* ‘go away’. His work was taken over by László Jakab, a professor at Debrecen’s Kossuth Lajos University. Jakab published the first large-scale, scholarly Hungarian–Finnish dictionary in 1985.

The dictionary consists of some 56,000 entries on 850 pages. Its word stock is up-to-date. Some expressions were rather ‘advanced’ for the 1980s, for instance *yoghurt*, *jacht* ‘yacht’, *tweed*, *whisky* and *yard*. Even *komputer* ~ *számítógép* was included. The entry *ajatollah* shows that the 1979 Iranian revolution had already taken place. Today we smile at *önborotvakészülék* ‘electric razor’, but in socialist Hungary this was a big deal.

The dictionary is especially rich in the lexicon of flora and fauna. The Hungarian general public might be unaware of such botanical terms as *csorbóka* ‘milkweed’, *ezerjófű* ‘centaury’, *salátaboglaréka* ‘lesser celandine’, *tyúkhúr* ‘chickweed’, *varjúköröm* ‘rampion’ and *zsázsa* ‘cress’. There are less familiar fauna, too: *halfarkas* ‘skua’, *hósármány* ‘snow bunting’, *lilik* ‘greylag goose’, *májmetely* ‘liver fluke’, *orsóhal* ‘lamprey’ and *őn* ‘asp (fish)’.

There is a generous helping of geographic and other names. Some are essential, since they are translations in both languages: *Baktérítő* ~ *Kauriin kääntöpiiri* ‘Tropic of Capricorn’, *Északi-tenger* ~ *Pohjanmeri* ‘North Sea’, *Finn-öböl* ~ *Suomenlahti* ‘Gulf of Finland’, *Fokföld* ~ *Kapmaa* ‘Cape Province’, *Sziklás-hegység* ~ *Kalliovuoret* ‘Rocky Mountains’. Other geographical terms are useful, but not indispensable: *Bengália*, *Berlin*, *Bosznia*, *Chile*, *Góbi*, *Hága*, *Jáva*, *Kína*, *Kuba*, *Palesztina*, *Szahara*, *Tibet*, etc. Hungarian geographic names are widely covered: *Balaton*, *Buda* and *Pest*, *Duna-kanyar* ‘Danube Bend’, *Kunság* and *Dunántúl* ‘Transdanubia’. It took a lot of courage to mention *Kárpátalja* ‘Subcarpathia’, and it is no accident that several formerly Hungarian regions adjacent to Hungary are not mentioned. Missing are *Felvidék* ‘historical northern Hungary’, *Délvidék* ‘historical southern Hungary’, *Partium* ‘the areas between Transylvania and present-day Hungary’, *Vajdaság* ‘Vojvodina’ (in Serbia) and *Székelyföld* ‘Szeklerland’ (in Transylvania), etc.

Hungarian first names are also given. However, very fortunately Jakab does not give Hungarian equivalents, rather he just characterizes them as male or female names. A novel, positive feature of the dictionary is that a number of diminutives are included: *Árpi*, *Berci*, *Erzsi*, *Eta*, *Feri*, *Ferkó*, *Nusi*, *Panni*, *Pityu* etc. Also several abbreviations get their deserved place in the dictionary (for instance *pl.* ‘e.g.’, *pu.* ‘station’, *ui.* ‘i.e.’, *ún.* ‘so-called’). However, *u.p.* = *utolsó posta* ‘last post office (where post is still carried)’ is definitely obscure today (but might come back any day). The era was characterized by *pvc/pévécé*, which had its place among the abbreviations. Finally, the frequent abbreviation *B.ú.é.k.* = *Boldog új évet kívánok* ‘I Wish You a Happy New Year’ is a thoughtful plus.

The dictionary was published in the dying days of socialism in Hungary. Happily, it carries no political ballast. However, certain entries were unavoidable: for example *elvtárs* ‘comrade’, *kolhoz* ‘kolkhoz’, *Béke-világtanács* ‘World Peace Council’, *MSZBT* Hungarian–Soviet Friendship Society, *SZOT* ‘National Council of Trade Unions’, *tsz.* ‘collective farm’. Entries beginning with *munkás* ‘worker’ number 46 and *párt* ‘party’ 67, some of which surely could have been left out. For instance, expressions such as *munkásáruló* ‘traitor to the working class’ document bygone socialist jargon. At that time, *szamizdat* was too ‘hot’ to enter the dictionary. Other expressions characteristic of the socialistic period, now obsolete, were for instance *lakáshiány* ‘housing shortage’

and *valutakorlátozás* ‘restrictions on money exchange’. Also happily gone are the days when a telephone was worth its weight in gold in Hungary (it was not unusual to wait ten years to have one installed) and when Hungarians still knew what *telefonkezelő* ‘operator’ and *telefonállomás* ‘telephone exchange’ meant. However, overall only an insignificant part of the dictionary is outdated. Obsolete and obsolescent expressions such as the following could have been left out: *anzágot* ‘brag’, *bacchánsnő* ‘maenad’, *faköponyeg* ‘sentry box’, *föcstej* ‘colostrum’, *kékkő* ‘copper sulphate’, *mosóasszony* ‘laundress’, *ojt* ‘bud [v.]’, *sajtruha* ‘cheesecloth’, *távirda* ‘telegraph office’ and *zsarátnok* ‘embers’.

The dictionary has a wealth of literary and linguistic terms, thanks to the dictionary’s target audience of university students, for instance *asszonánc* ‘assonance’, *pentameter*, *trocheus* ‘trochee’, *labializáció* ‘labialization’ and *zöngésülés* ‘voicing’. There are some terms from academic life, such as *szigorlat* ‘final examination’ and *úvézik* ‘to re-sit an examination’. Finnish feminism was too recent a development for this dictionary, since Jakab’s ‘linguist’ is still a male (*kielímies*). It is a very useful, if challenging, innovation to have Hungarian noun suffixes as entries, for instance *-ból*, *-ből*, *-ból/-ből*; *-ként*, *-képpen*; *-szöri*. Jakab approaches this demanding task with great insight.

There is a certain amount of technical vocabulary, though there are perhaps too many terms from printing (*petit* ‘small-size font’, *térző* ‘lead’). Hungarian football’s past glories are in evidence in the entries *bal-* and *jobbösszekötő* ‘inside left and right’, *bal-* and *jobbfedezet* ‘left and right halfback’ and *dribliz* ‘dribble’. *Centerhalf* was already obsolete, but *center* and *centercsatár* ‘striker’ are still included. Unfortunately, *aranycsapat* ‘golden team’ (of the early 1950s) is neither included nor explained.

Like any good dictionary, Jakab’s work offers a wealth of cultural information. Traditional Hungarian images are still well represented, with *betyár*, *csárdás*, *csikós*, *gulyás* and *puszta*. Fortunately, Jakab did not stop here and included *Árpád-ház* ‘the Árpád dynasty’, *Habsburg-ház* ‘the Habsburg dynasty’, *atilla* ‘hussar jacket’, *csángó* and *palóc* (Hungarian ethnographic groups). Some expressions are especially problematic: *Kossuth-díj* ‘Kossuth prize’, *kopjafa* ‘wooden headboard (on grave)’, *kurtanemes* ‘landless petty noble’, *lacikonyha* ‘cook’s stall at fair’. Of Hungarian monarchs, only *Könyves Kálmán* is included, though in this case less would be more, since the explanation *Kálmán Kirjojen Suosija* ‘Kálmán the Patron of Books’ says very little. *Babszem Jankó* (*peukaloinen* ‘Tom Thumb’) and *húbelebalázs* (*módjára*) (~ *harkitsematta* ‘recklessly’) will remain something of a mystery to the Finnish user. It was innovative to include *Óperenciás tengeren túl* (*kaukana valtameren takana* ‘far away, beyond the ocean’). There are some “reverse realia”, too, such as *kantele* and *szauna*.

Numerous Hungarian culinary specialities are explained in the dictionary, though some of the Finnish equivalents are highly problematic. For instance, to the chagrin of Hungarians the Finnish *makkara* ‘sausage’ (where the English is equally unhelpful) is a cover term for several Hungarian delicacies: *hurka* ~ *makkara*, *kolbász* ~ (*liha*)*makkara*, *debreceni páros kolbász* ~ *debreceniläinen kaksoismakkara* ‘Debrecen hard sausage’, *szalámi* ~ *salami(makkara)*. The equivalents *gulyásleves* ~ *lihakeitto* ‘goulash’ and *pörkölt* ~ *lihamuhennos* ‘stewed meat with paprika and sour cream’ are pseudo-equivalents, as the Finnish dishes taste quite different from the Hungarian ones. Despite the formidable cultural differences, wine and other beverages are given some space, too. For instance, *fröccs* ‘wine-and-soda’, *hosszúlépés* ‘wine-and-soda (one decilitre of wine

with two decilitres of soda)’ and *kisfröccs* ‘wine-and-soda (one decilitre of wine with one decilitre of soda)’. For some reason *nagyfröccs* ‘two decilitres of wine with one decilitre of soda’ is not included. The following are likewise useful for the Finnish “wine tourist”: *must* and *murci* ‘stum’ as well as *seprőpálinka* ‘marc-brandy’.

Proverbs are frequent in Jakab’s dictionary. Some of these belong to the common European heritage, where it is easy to find Finnish equivalents, e.g. *ajándék lónak ne nézd a fogát ~ ei lahjahevosen suuhun katsota* ‘don’t look a gift horse in the mouth’. There are, however, some Hungarian specialities, for instance *él mint Marci Hevesen* ‘live the life of Riley’ is translated as ‘live like a cow in the field’ in Finnish.

As Jakab is an expert on the theory of Hungarian word stems, it is not surprising that the presentation of stems and suffixes in the dictionary is exemplary. The nouns are followed in brackets by the accusative, the third person singular possessive and the nominative plural. For instance *ház* ‘house’ [~at, ~a, ~ak], *szó* ‘word’ [~t, szava, szavak]. The verbs are given with the first person singular of the past tense and, where needed, third person singular forms. In addition, third person singular imperative and conditional forms are given. For example *kér* ‘want’ [~tem, ~jen, ~ne], *ad* ‘give’ [~tam, ~ott, ~jon, ~na], *lát* ‘see’ [~tam, ~ott, lásson, ~na]. Jakab’s approach is much more user-friendly than Papp’s strategy, as shown above.

To sum up, László Jakab produced an excellent dictionary. His lexicon is up-to-date, there is a wealth of examples, and his grammatical rigour is exemplary. This dictionary remains to this day an indispensable reference for Hungarian and Finnish language learners alike.

László Jakab: Finnish–Hungarian student’s dictionary (2007)

It took 45 years after István Papp’s Finnish–Hungarian dictionary for the next work in this category to appear. The compiler of this long-awaited work was none other than László Jakab himself, in 2007. It appeared in the student’s dictionary (*diákszótár*) series of Akadémiai Kiadó. However, this label does not do justice to this excellent work. This clear and handy edition has 28,900 entries. It is a pity that the foreword is given only in Hungarian. It is hard for a Finnish beginner to work out that Hungarian verbs are entered in dictionaries in the third person singular of the present tense, not the infinitive form as in most languages.

Since Papp’s dictionary was already hopelessly out-of-date, the first question is whether Jakab has been able to carry out a major update? Jakab’s main source has been the new monolingual, reference dictionary *Suomen kielen perussanakirja* (I–III, 1990–1994), which has 100,000 entries. This is a good starting point, but it would have been even better had Jakab used its latest editions (*Kielitoimiston sanakirja*, digital version 2004, print edition 2006). Furthermore, more use could have been made of several monolingual internet and digital sources, too. That is, due to technical advances Finnish lexicography has rapidly increased the production of monolingual dictionaries over the last twenty years. (Perhaps there is a delay in this respect in the latest Finnish–Hungarian dictionaries, cf. 5.).

At the same time, Jakab’s dictionary has gone through a general update since Papp’s work. A wealth of modern terms is included, such as *katumuspilleri* ‘morning-after pill’, *kovalevy* ‘hard disk’, *kännykkä* ‘mobile phone’, *lerppu* ‘floppy’, *luomutuote* ‘organic product’, *potkupuku* ‘romper suit’, *sähly* ‘floorball’ and *sähköposti* ‘e-mail’. Also

Papp's problem of having too many *ad hoc* compounds and derivatives has now been solved. For instance, among examples beginning with the letter *h*- the following are no longer included: *haltijamaisesti* 'in a fairy-like manner', *hassumainen* 'funny-ish', *heikkoverinen* 'weak-blooded', *höystyä* 'become spiced up'. (Still, the peripheral *hiushuokoisuus* 'capillarity' is retained.) In general, it seems frequency was one of the criteria of word selection. Thus colloquial expressions are also given space. For instance, *verkkari* 'sweatsuit' (33,800 hits at google.fi) or the slangy *heido* 'see ya' (2180 hits).

Which new items are missing? Unfortunately such words as the following remain unrecorded in Finnish–Hungarian dictionaries: *ammattikorkeakoulu* 'university of applied sciences', *biotunniste* 'biometric trait', *brunssi* 'brunch', *brändi* 'brand', *graavi* 'raw spiced', *haaveri* 'shipwreck', *hakukone* 'search engine', *hedelmäinen* 'fruity', *hurtti* 'brisk', *hymiö* 'smiley', *joiku* 'traditional Sami song', *jälkimaku* 'aftertaste', *kaamos* 'period of darkness', *kantoliina* 'baby sling (carrier)', *kannettava* 'laptop', *kassler* 'loin of pork', *kierrätys* 'recycling', *kolumni* 'column', *kurapuku* 'romper suit', *luotijuna* 'bullet train', *murukahvi* 'instant coffee', *naistenmies* 'womanizer', *poikkeustila* 'martial law', *polttarit* 'bachelor party/hen night', *raskausarpi* 'stretch marks', *reilu kauppa* 'fair trade', *saattohoito* 'terminal treatment', *sauvakävely* 'Nordic walking', *selain* 'browser', *suojelupoliisi* '(Finnish) security police', *tekstiviesti* 'text message', *tienata* 'pocket', *tienesti* 'pickings', *veroehdotus* 'tax proposal', *vierihoito* 'rooming-in' and *yllytyshullu* 'easily led'. These words, with the exception of *jälkimaku* and *poikkeustila*, are also missing from Nyirkos's 2009 pocket dictionary. International expressions, such as *city*, *c-molli*, *zeppeliini*, *zulu* are easy to guess, and thus they could have yielded their place to the above-mentioned words.

A virtue of the dictionary is that it has many technical terms. For instance, medicine is well represented. We find *fisteli* 'fistula', *rasituskoe* 'tolerance test' and *tiehyt* 'duct'. Abbreviations have been cut to the minimum. The most important (e.g. *jne.* 'etc.' *mm.* 'inter alia') are still there, but most of the acronyms are gone.

Finnish culture-specific vocabulary, for instance dishes and beverages, are generally treated as in Papp's dictionary. Only *lanttulaatikko* 'rutabaga casserole' has been added. Important historical terms included in the Papp's dictionary have unfortunately been removed, for instance *talvisota*, *jatkosota* and *nuijasota*. An oddity is *punamultahallitus* 'government formed by the Social Democrats and the Agrarian Party', literally "red ochre government". However, no other governmental coalition is mentioned.

Like Papp's dictionary, Jakab includes clitics among the entries: *-kin*, *-pa/-pä*, *-han/-hän*, as well as *-mainen/-mäinen* '-like' derivational suffixes. The former is useful, but the inclusion of the latter is somewhat haphazard. To be consistent, all the derivational suffixes that go back to a cognate should be included: *lainen/-läinen* '-(i)an, -er', *-omainen* '-like', *-tar/-tär* '-(r)ess, woman', *-kunta* '-corps', etc. The *-tar* suffix has now been assigned to its rightful place and several entries have been deleted. However, some archaic items remain: *aallotar* 'mermaid', *laulajatar* 'songstress', *näyttelijätär* 'actress', *tanssijatar* 'dancer-FEM'. But the uncontroversial and frequent *kuningatar* 'queen' has been omitted in error.

The entries have a straightforward, transparent structure. Different meanings are clearly distinguishable. The dictionary has a fine collection of examples, and it is good that Jakab presents a number of idioms. The dictionary sensibly consigns first names to an appendix. Male and female names are in separate lists and unisex names (e.g. *Muisto*,

Kaino and *Tuisku*) in a third. Thankfully, there is now no attempt to find ‘equivalents’ for these.

Finally, inflection is indicated by a raised number after the entry, a practice that was criticized in our discussion of Papp’s dictionary. Even the classes are mostly the same (of the 85 noun classes Jakab has 82). Consonant gradation is further indicated by an asterisk. It would have been better to follow the example of Jakab’s Hungarian–Finnish dictionary and adjust it to its Finnish–Hungarian counterpart.

To sum up, Jakab’s dictionary is undoubtedly a milestone in Hungarian–Finnish lexicography. Some quibbles aside, its lexicon is in general up-to-date and the entries are easy to use. It is a pity that there is no digital version available.

László Jakab: Hungarian–Finnish student’s dictionary (forthcoming)

The student dictionary (*diákszótár*) series of Akadémiai Kiadó will soon have a Hungarian–Finnish member. The grand old man of Hungarian–Finnish lexicography, László Jakab will be the editor and Petteri Laihonen the consultant for Finnish. An innovation in this work, which is due to appear by the end of 2011, will be that at the end of verb entries, their co-verb forms are also given. For instance the entry for *megy* ‘go’ ends with references to *be~*, *ki~*, *fel~*, *le~* etc., directing the user to *bemegy* ‘go in’, and so on. In general, the dictionary follows the distinguished traditions of the Papp–Jakab school, updated with the latest insights of Finnish–Hungarian lexicography.

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Finn/magyar szótárak

Magyarországon a finn, Finnországban a magyar nyelv egyetemi oktatása több mint száz éve kiemelt jelentőségű. Korábban ezt elsősorban a nyelvrokonság eszméje indokolta, mára azonban már sokszínűbbé váltak a nyelvtanulás indítékai. A finn–magyar szótárak sorát Szinnyei József munkája nyitotta 1884-ben, ezt hosszú idő elteltével váltotta Papp István műve (1962). E kitűnő szótár évtizedekig a finniül tanulók alapvető segédeszköze volt, de a világ gyors változása miatt megérett az idő a frissítésre: Jakab László néhány évvel ezelőtt jelentette meg Papp munkáján alapuló korszerű, modern szókincsű szótárát. A magyar–finn szótárak első darabja Weöres Gyula nevéhez fűződik (1934). Ez a zsebszótár a növekvő tanulói igényeknek már nem volt képes megfelelni, ennek ellenére csak 1969-ben váltotta fel Nyirkos István Helsinkiben megjelent műve. A magyar közönség csak 1985-ben vehette kézbe azt a szótárát, amelyet még Papp István kezdett el szerkeszteni, majd halála után Jakab László folytatta a munkát. Nyirkos István nagy sikerű, sok kiadást megélt finn–magyar–finn zsebszótára a mai napig a turisták, a két ország iránt érdeklődők nélkülözhetetlen kötete.