

Multi-word verbs in French-English online bilingual dictionaries: The contribution of bilingual corpora

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ABSTRACT

As rightly pointed out by Granger (2012), in the 21st century, “lexicography is at a turning-point in its history” and has to deal with several new challenges when moving to the electronic medium. Although the phraseological coverage of dictionaries has considerably improved in recent times, it is of common knowledge that some developments still have to be done in the field of bilingual lexicography. In the light of these observations, the present work aims at investigating the treatment of multi-word verbs in the currently increasingly used French-English online bilingual dictionaries in terms of coverage, accessibility and display of the entries, followed by an in-depth analysis of the translation equivalents suggested by the dictionaries against corpus data. Outcomes of this case study revealed issues in the treatment and translations of the surveyed multi-word verbs and demonstrated the role of bilingual corpora to significantly enhance the accuracy and diversity of the translation equivalents suggested in the online bilingual dictionaries.

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ABBREVIATIONS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

OBD	Online Bilingual Dictionary
MWU	Multi-word Unit
MWV	Multi-word Verb

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

I.1 AIM AND SCOPE

As rightly reported by Ellis (2008: 1), “words mean things in the context of other words.” If at first Chomsky divided grammatical phenomena into 'core' and 'periphery' where patterns, structures, constructions and formulas were only peripheral elements, phraseological patterns gained from the 80s onwards more and more interest from linguists who highlighted their importance and phraseology became central to grammar (cf. Ellis, 2008: 3-4). Comparing it to 'blood in systemic circulation', Ellis (2008: 9) describes phraseology as “[flowing] through heart and periphery, nourishing all”. It consequently became a fundamental part of a wide range of research areas, such as Corpus Linguistics, Cognitive Linguistics, (Second) Language Acquisition, Psycholinguistics, Applied Linguistics, English for Academic/Special Purposes, Lexicography, etc. Since Sinclair (1991: 100) has put forward his 'idiom principle' advocating that “a language user has available to him or her a large number of semi-preconstructed phrases that constitute single choices, even though they might appear to be analysable into segments” and has suggested that “the normal primary carrier of meaning is the phrase and not the word” (2008: 409), the phrase has become a key focus of language analyses:

Phraseological analyses demonstrate that much of communication makes use of fixed expressions memorized as formulaic chunks, that language is rich in collocational and colligation restrictions and semantic prosodies, that the phrase is the basic level of language representation where form and meaning meet with greatest reliability, that formulaic sequences play a central role in child language acquisition, and that the fluent language users have a vast repertoire of memorized language sequences. (Ellis, 2008: 6)

Yet, many gaps still have to be filled and the present study places the emphasis on the phraseological coverage of bilingual dictionaries. Johansson (2007) reported that the use of corpus data in lexicographical practice helps 'phrasing up' (in the terms of Granger and Lefer 2013: 158) dictionaries. However, as pointed out by Sinclair (2008: 408), dictionaries are still “almost exclusively focused on the word, so much so that it is difficult to treat a phrase adequately in a dictionary and difficult to find it once it is there”. Improvements have nevertheless been made in

phraseological lexicography in recent years. In his review, Rundell (1999) highlighted the general tendency to reinforce the quality of productively oriented information and called attention to six major improvements (as listed in De Cock and Granger, 2005), i.e. meanings and explanations are more user-friendly, there is a more transparent coding system, there is a more phrasally oriented approach, headwords and ordering of meanings are frequency-based, there is information on synonyms, antonyms and superordinate terms as well as a prevention of learners' errors. Recent phraseological studies (cf. De Cock and Granger, 2005; Granger and Paquot 2008b; Granger and Lefer 2012 *inter alia*) have nonetheless shown that the progress in the treatment of phraseological units accounts mainly for monolingual learners' dictionaries. As underlined by Granger and Lefer (2013: 157), the treatment “in bilingual dictionaries still lags far behind that in monolingual dictionaries.” This point of view has also been shared among others by Rundell (1999) who stated that “[t]he extraordinary range of lexical and grammatical information [monolingual learners' dictionaries] include is rarely even approached by the best bilingual dictionaries available” (see also Siepmann 2008, Pecman 2008). Johansson (2007: 308) also observed that “dictionaries fall short in the light of the evidence from bilingual corpora.” According to Granger and Lefer (2013: 158), “advances (...) have been much slower in bilingual dictionaries” but “this is not to say that phraseology is absent from bilingual dictionaries”. For instance, considerable advances have been made in the coverage of collocations: better entries can be found in dictionaries or collocation boxes are designed and appear in the compilation of dictionaries (cf. Granger and Paquot 2008b; Granger and Lefer 2012, 2013; Atkins 1996). However, a range of other relevant phraseological units are still disregarded in bilingual dictionaries. These expressions are defined by Granger and Paquot (2008b: 1345) as “sequences of words that commonly go together in the natural discourse but which, unlike idioms, mostly display syntactic and semantic regularity.” They are referred to by Biber et al. (1999: 989) as 'lexical bundles', that is to say 'bundles of words that show a statistical tendency to co-occur'. As stated by Granger and Paquot (2008b), knowledge of these expressions is of vital importance in order to speak and write fluently and it is thus essential to find ways of integrating this type of multi-word unit into the 'microstructure of dictionaries'.

In the light of such research, Pecman (2008) focussed attention on lexicographical issues encountered in bilingual phraseology: “there is as yet no clear picture of how such data can be efficiently compiled, formalised and presented” (2008: 204) She underlined the difficulty of this process, since multi-word units are 'complex lexical items'. Moreover, the translational techniques

may be different for each pair of equivalents in both languages dealt with in the dictionary and the direction of translation can also influence the disposition of the data. In addition to this problem, she rightly highlighted the fact that an equivalent of a multi-word expression in a source language is not necessarily a multi-word expression in the target language. To lend support to previous phraseological studies, she explained that “in phraseological lexicography, the microstructure of a dictionary is difficult to devise as multi-word units can display different properties. It is probably impossible to devise a unique model for processing different types of multi-word data: collocations, colligations, collocational frameworks, idiomatic expressions, idioms, etc. Nevertheless, all these units share the same fundamental feature: they behave as continuous or discontinuous sequences of words and appear to be prefabricated, that is, stored and retrieved whole from memory at the time of use, rather than being subjected to generation or analysis by the language grammar.” (2008: 207) Finally, Pecman stresses the capabilities afforded by the electronic medium and suggests that we make better use of the abundance of access modes it allows (see also Hartmann's (2005) suggestion of a possible 'hybridisation' between mixed dictionary genres).

In a nutshell, as claimed by Granger and Paquot (2008b: 1355), “many more [multi-word units] deserve to have the status of headwords than is currently the case” and we should endeavour to overcome lexicographical difficulties. Building on this idea, many researchers are striving to improve phraseological information in bilingual dictionaries to move towards a more effective fulfilment of learners' needs (cf. Granger and Paquot, 2008b; Granger and Lefer, 2012-2013; Hartmann, 2005; Pecman, 2008; Siepmann, 2008 *inter alia*). Along the lines of these studies, and with a view to achieving a step further in processing bilingual phraseology, the present research aims to investigate the coverage of multi-word verbs in French <> English online bilingual dictionaries.

1.2 HYPOTHESIS AND OBJECT OF THE RESEARCH

In the light of the recent growing interest in the phraseological coverage of dictionaries (cf. Granger and Paquot, 2008b; Granger and Lefer, 2012-2013; Hartmann, 2005; Pecman, 2008; Siepmann, 2008 *inter alia*) and the wish to achieve a more effective fulfilment of users' phraseological needs in bilingual dictionaries (cf. Granger and Paquot, 2008b; Granger and Lefer, 2012-2013), the starting-point assumption of this study is that multi-word verbs are not dealt with adequately in French <>

English online bilingual dictionaries. On the basis of the selected e-lexicographic and corpus data, the following research questions will be addressed: How are multi-word verbs dealt with in bilingual dictionaries? Are they displayed in a user-friendly way? Are the suggested translations correct/the most frequent ones?

I.3 BACKGROUND

Before starting the analysis, having already had an insight into the field of phraseology – framework of the present work – and, more specifically, into the phraseological coverage of bilingual dictionaries, literature that presents previous and cutting edge research in the fields of bilingual lexicography and the role of corpora as well as electronic lexicography and the online bilingual dictionaries is outlined in this section in order to give an overview of some of the main advances and issues in these areas.

I.3.1 Bilingual lexicography and the role of corpora

Nowadays, corpora play a major role in the compilation of dictionaries and, as rightly reported by Granger (2012: 3), “the abundance and diversity of data provided by corpora coupled with powerful tools designed to handle it quickly and efficiently enable lexicographers to produce much richer descriptions than was the case when the only source of language data came from their own intuition and/or citation slips”. As Johansson (2007) claimed it in the light of his extensive research into the field of corpus linguistics, one of the most obvious applications of cross-linguistic corpus research lies in bilingual lexicography but he noticed that “dictionaries [nonetheless] fall short in the light of the evidence from bilingual corpora” (2007: 308).

While corpora are supposed to be a valuable source of authentic data, no bilingual dictionary seems to make use of them in their compilation. It is however urgent that bilingual lexicographers make use of corpus data since studies have shown that users nowadays increasingly show a preference for this type of dictionary (e.g. Lew 2004: 18-20) and, more importantly, in a perspective to avoid errors and gather the most common translations in the target language. As Salkie (2008) summarizes:

“Translation (parallel) corpora are standard tools in several fields, such as translator training, machine translation, contrastive linguistics, and various language engineering applications. One area where one might expect such corpora to be widely used is bilingual lexicography,

but in fact such corpora have not been exploited significantly in dictionary compilation – unlike monolingual lexicography, where it would be unthinkable today not to use single-language corpora.”

As rightly pointed out by Adamska-Salaciak (2014) “there is no doubt that a twenty-first century bilingual dictionary worthy of the name cannot be compiled without recourse to an electronic corpus.” Advantages of corpora are as a matter of fact numerous. As Adamska-Salaciak summarizes it (2014), they provide evidence for meanings and frequency of lexical items, they help lexicographers in the identification of common MWU- and syntactic patterns in order to create representative up-to-date word lists, they provide authentic examples of usage and typical contexts in which words occur, they allow the analysis of the collocational environment of given words and thus the integration of collocations into the dictionaries' entries and finally, they can help improve the precision of lexicographic translation equivalents. This last point is one of prior importance, as studies have revealed issues in the translation of some MWUs due to the poor treatment they receive and the lack of corpus analysis to gather authentic data and show adequate translation equivalents (e.g. Granger and Lefer 2013) where corpora could however be of most important support. As rightly underlined by de Schryver (2003: 167), “no serious compiler would undertake a large dictionary project nowadays without one (and preferably several) [corpus] at hand”.

In a nutshell, even though lexicographers do not make use of bilingual or translation corpora for reasons of availability and quality (among others), it is widely believed and proven that they can considerably enrich and enhance bilingual dictionaries' content (cf. Granger and Lefer 2011, 2012 and 2013; Adamska 2014; Salkie 2008; Ferrasi et al. 2010 inter alia) and the present study sets out to once again demonstrate this assumption.

1.3.2 Electronic Lexicography: the online bilingual dictionaries

As rightly pointed out by Granger (2012: 10), lexicography is at its “turning point” in the 21st century. Electronic dictionaries of all sorts become so popular that editors of some dictionaries are becoming aware of the “finite dimensions” of their books and are considering the possibility to stop publishing the paper versions (cf. Rundell 2015: 301). The move to the electronic medium enlarges the scope of possibilities and dictionaries have now to deal with new challenges, among which the

efficiency of access, the integration of authentic corpus data and the customisation of user-oriented entries to suit individual needs. As Atkins commented a few years ago in her musings of the future dictionary (1992: 521), “if new methods of access (breaking the iron grip of the alphabet) and a hypertext approach to the data stored in the dictionary do not result in a product light years away from the printed dictionary, then [lexicographers] are evading the responsibilities of [their] profession.” Ease of accessibility is as a matter of fact one of the major assets of electronic dictionaries and as claimed by De Schryver (2003: 173), “[n]o matter how outstanding the contents of a dictionary, if the contents cannot be accessed in a quick and straightforward way, the dictionary de facto fails to be a good dictionary”. Much research has however shown how accessibility can still be subjected to improvement (cf. Murano 2010, Lew 2012, Lew and Tokarek 2010, de Schryver 2003, Bentivogli 2002, inter alia). Furthermore, another challenge the electronic dictionary has nowadays to deal with is the customization of its entries: As of 1996, Atkins (1996: 2) already stated that it was of prior importance for dictionaries “to look at the needs of dictionary users, of every language, and every walk of life, users as diverse as people themselves, and give them the kind of information they need for whatever they are using the dictionary for”. *User-friendliness* becomes thus a key concept in the compilation of dictionaries today.

Among those electronic dictionaries, we find the increasingly used online bilingual dictionaries. These tools are still given very little interest in literature, surrounded by a myth of incredible ease of accessibility. They however are the most common tools used nowadays and consequently deserve to receive increased attention and scrutiny. In this perspective, Gelpi's (2004) investigation of the online bilingual dictionaries (and more specifically, the English-Spanish specialized OBDs) set out to assess their reliability. For her,

“in particular, an online bilingual dictionary must have a real and public author; it must be oriented to the main addressee or users; it must be designed according to its lexicographical function and main objectives; it must be adequately organized with regard to hyperstructure, access structure, macrostructure, microstructure and iconic structure. At the same time, a good online bilingual dictionary should be usable, updated, hypertextual and should offer some degree of satisfaction.” (2004: 10)

But to her mind, the fact that OBDs are “easy, quick and cheap” leads to the drawback of having to deal with low-quality contents, which mislead the user. There are hitherto no “points of reference to decide if a given dictionary is 'good' or 'bad'” (2004: 4) and the author highlights the need for

accurate lexicographical evaluation of these tools. Besides her analysis, Müller-Spitzer et al. (2014) have thoroughly investigated the use of online dictionaries in an extensive work. According to their research, online bilingual dictionaries have many potential benefits: they can present lexicographic data more flexibly (as they are not static), and are ideal tools “to generate customized versions of a dictionary entry depending on the user” as well as “to provide additional resources and cross-references” (2014: 144). In addition, they also could offer direct access to corpus (e.g. Paquot 2012) and allow for the integration of multimedia components. However, the authors underline the possible weaknesses of collaborative dictionaries which increasingly appear online (2014: 145): “it is important to know whether online dictionary users still rate the accuracy and authorship of the dictionary content as a very important or the most important feature, given that collaborative dictionaries are consulted quite frequently, even though they have quite a bad reputation”. They set out to define key priorities in the improvement of OBDs. Their study revealed that people expect OBDs to be reliable regarding content of the entries, to keep the content up-to-date, to be easily accessible and finally to be clearly presented. They comment the outcomes of the study as follows (2014: 183): “In our studies, it has been shown that the classic characteristics of dictionaries were rated very highly, especially content-related reliability; and not just in competition with other features, but in general. This means our participants expect an online dictionary first of all to be a reliable reference work, and that medium-specific enrichment with innovative features is clearly subordinated. Neither age nor professional background nor language version reveal significant group differences with regards to this.”

In the light of these various limitations, challenges and expectations of a good electronic dictionary, we will in the present work investigate the online bilingual dictionaries and try to assess their content-reliability through the in-depth survey of multi-word verbs.

I.4 STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION

The following chapter provides a description of the material and data used for the research project, as well as an outline of the methodology applied for the analysis. In Chapter 3 begins the experimental part and a first investigation into the coverage and the accessibility of the multi-word verbs in the selected French-English online bilingual dictionaries is conducted. The second part of the analysis of the multi-word verbs appears in Chapter 4 with the assessment of the various

translations of the MWVs suggested in the three online bilingual dictionaries against corpus data. Finally, the outcomes of the case study are summarized and discussed in Chapter 5, followed by the conclusion and the list of references. Please note that the Appendices attached to the present work are to be found on an enclosed CD.

CHAPTER II: DATA AND METHODOLOGY

II.1 RESEARCH PROJECT: MATERIAL

II.1.1 List of MWVs

To ensure the objectivity of the analysis, the basis for the study is a list of 36 French multi-word verbs, resulting from a corpus analysis using the n-gram extraction method conducted by Lefer and Grabar (2015). After a partial lemmatization of four FR corpora (namely the *PLECI-News*, the *Mult-Ed*, the *KIAP* and the *Europarl*), these linguists have automatically extracted bundle families in each genre displayed by the corpora with a minimum of 5 occurrences per genre for the 3-grams and a minimum of 2 occurrences per genre for the longer n-grams. The third step of their analysis involved an automatic selection of the bundles that were shared across genres, followed by a manual validation and classification of the results. On the whole, this list of multi-word units represents thus the scope of some of the most frequent multi-word verbs used in the French language.

aller dans le sens de	être loin de	mettre en cause
avoir le droit de	être sur le point de	mettre en évidence
avoir l'habitude de	faire croire que	mettre en oeuvre
avoir lieu	faire en sorte que	mettre en place
avoir recours à	faire face à	mettre fin à
donner les moyens de	faire la preuve de	mettre un terme à
être à l'origine de	faire le choix de	ouvrir la voie à
être à même de	faire l'objet de	prendre en compte
être de l'ordre de	faire partie de	prendre la mesure de
être en cause	faire pression sur	prendre part
être en mesure de	faire preuve de	remettre en cause
être en train de	jeter les bases de	tenir compte de

Table 1. List of multi-word verbs

II.1.2 Lexicographic and corpus data

The study relies largely on both e-lexicographic and corpus data. Three French ⇔ English online

bilingual dictionaries will be investigated, i.e. the free of charge *Reverso-Collins*¹ and the *Larousse*² dictionaries as well as the subscription-based *Oxford* dictionary³. The results from the lexicographic data will then be analyzed against corpus data. Since the French language does not benefit from such a large corpus as, for instance, the *British National Corpus* or the *Corpus of Contemporary American English* for the English language, the *Label France* unidirectional corpus will be looked into. This translation corpus is made up of magazine articles (including transcribed interviews) in French translated into English that appeared in “Label France”, a magazine published by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Including a variety of topics, such as politics, economics, culture, technology and tourism, the corpus comprises c. 800,000 words in each language. The corpus was aligned automatically at sentence level with *Alinea* (a software dedicated to bilingual aligning and concordancing, created by Olivier Kraif⁴) and can be read in the multilingual concordancer *ParaConc* (software, developed by Michael Barlow⁵), making of this corpus “an ideal testbed to study French-English translation shifts and thereby revisit existing descriptions in bilingual dictionaries”.⁶ In the same perspective, research will be carried out on the *British National Corpus*⁷ to add value to the results of the analysis. Created by *Oxford University press*, the *BYU BNC* is a 100 million words corpus containing texts from a wide range of genres classified into spoken, fiction, magazines, newspapers, academic, non-academic and miscellaneous categories.

II.2 METHODOLOGY

With respect to the wish to achieve a step further in processing bilingual phraseology, we will investigate the treatment of the 36 selected multi-word verbs in online bilingual dictionaries adopting the following methodology:

We will firstly assess the coverage as well as the accessibility of these multi-word verbs in the three selected OBDs. Each of them will be minutely queried within the dictionaries in order to determine, on the one hand, whether they appear in the French-to-English part of the OBDs and on the other

1 *Reverso Collins*, <http://dictionnaire.reverso.net/francais-anglais/>, last accessed in February 2017.

2 *Larousse*, <http://www.larousse.fr/dictionnaires/francais-anglais>, last accessed in February 2017.

3 *Oxford Dictionaries*, <https://premium-oxforddictionaries-com.proxy.bib.ucl.ac.be:2443/french/>, last accessed in February 2017.

4 *Alinea*, URL: http://olivier.kraif.u-grenoble3.fr/?option=com_content&task=view&id=27&Itemid=43, Accessed on 5th August 2017.

5 *ParaConc*, URL: <http://paraconc.com/>, Accessed on 5th August 2017.

6 CECL – LABEL France, URL: <https://uclouvain.be/en/research-institutes/ilc/cecl/label-france.html>, Accessed on 25th May 2017.

7 *British National Corpus*, URL: <http://corpus.byu.edu/bnc/>, last accessed in July 2017.

hand, whether they are easily accessible. A closer look at how these multi-word verbs are displayed in the French-to-English part of the selected dictionaries will secondly be taken. They will subsequently be classified in six main categories, namely headword entry, sub-entry +, sub-entry, example-sentence, example-collocation and not included in the dictionary (cf. methodology in Granger and Lefer, 2012) in order to reveal the possible disparities among dictionaries. The second part of the analysis involves the assessment of the translations the online bilingual dictionaries suggest for each of the MWVs. In this respect, data from the selected corpora will be analysed in order to specify which translations of each phrase are the most common ones in the native English language, allowing the detection of some possible default-translations to be deleted from the dictionaries as well as some potentially missing translations.

CHAPTER III: COVERAGE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE MULTI-WORD VERBS IN FRENCH-ENGLISH ONLINE BILINGUAL DICTIONARIES

III.1 AIM OF THE ANALYSIS

In the light of the recent growing interest in the phraseological coverage of dictionaries (cf. Granger and Paquot, 2008b; Granger and Lefer, 2012-2013; Hartmann, 2005; Pecman, 2008; Siepmann, 2008 inter alia) and the wish to achieve a more effective fulfilment of users' phraseological and accessibility needs in bilingual dictionaries (cf. Granger and Paquot, 2008b; Granger and Lefer, 2012-2013 inter alia), this chapter aims to assess the coverage and accessibility of the 36 listed multi-word verbs in French \diamond English online bilingual dictionaries. On the basis of the selected e-lexicographic data, the following research questions will be addressed: Can the multi-word verbs be found in the online bilingual dictionaries? How are they dealt with in the French-to-English part of the online bilingual dictionaries? Are they displayed in a user-friendly way? Which “strategy” does the online bilingual dictionary adopt to lead the user to the queried term?

The study relies largely on both e-lexicographic and corpus data. In this chapter, three widely used French \diamond English online bilingual dictionaries will be investigated, i.e. the free *Reverso-Collins* and *Larousse* and the subscription-based *Oxford* dictionaries.

III.2 ASSESSMENT OF THE COVERAGE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF THE MWVS

III.2.1 Coverage

The lexicographic treatment of multi-word verbs will first be assessed in terms of coverage, i.e. the range of multi-word verbs included in the online bilingual dictionaries. Emphasis must be laid on the fact that all the possible chunks have each time been typed in in the search bar of the three dictionaries (e.g. for “être en train de”, the chunks *être en train de*, *être en train*, *en train de*, *en train* have been checked; for “avoir recours à”, we checked *avoir recours à*, *avoir recours*, *recours*, etc.)

Table 2. Coverage of the MWVs in the OBDs⁸

Multi-word verb	Oxford	Reverso			Larousse
		Collins	Dictionnaire collaboratif	Exemples et traductions en contexte	
Aller dans le sens de	✓	x	x	✓	✓
Avoir le droit de	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Avoir l'habitude de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Avoir lieu	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Avoir recours à	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(se) Donner les moyens de	✓	x	x	✓	✓
Être à l'origine de	x	✓	✓	✓	✓
Être à même de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Être de l'ordre de	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Être en cause	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Être en mesure de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Être en train de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Être loin de	✓	x	x	✓	✓
Être sur le point de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faire croire que	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faire en sorte que	✓	✓	x	✓	x
Faire face à	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faire la preuve de	✓	x	x	✓	✓
Faire le choix de	✓	x	x	✓	x
Faire l'objet de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faire partie de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Faire pression sur	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Faire preuve de	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jeter les bases de	✓	✓	✓	✓	x

⁸ In the French-to-English side of the dictionary (meaning the multi-word verb unit *can* appear in the English-to-French side of the dictionary).

Mettre en cause	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mettre en évidence	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mettre en oeuvre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mettre en place	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mettre fin à	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Mettre un terme à	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ouvrir la voie à	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Prendre en compte	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Prendre la mesure de	✓	x	x	✓	✓
Prendre part	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Remettre en cause	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tenir compte de	✓	✓	x	✓	✓
Total (/36)	35	29	22	36	33
Total (%)	97,2	80,5	61,1	100	91,6

As can be seen from the results provided in Table 2, there is no marked difference in coverage between the three dictionaries. The *Larousse* contains 33 out of the 36 multi-word verbs (91,6%), the *Oxford* does even better and comprises 35 of them (97,2%), whereas the *Reverso-Collins* includes 29 of the listed multi-word verbs with a 80,5% coverage rate, which is quite a low result for *high-frequency* verbs. It has however to be noted that the *Reverso-Collins* also contains an interesting part, which we can read under the name of *Reverso-Context* (or “Exemples et traductions en contexte” part). Under this section of the dictionary, 36 out of the 36 multi-word verbs can be found in several example-sentences displaying various contexts.

III.2.2 Display

Whereas the coverage of the multi-word verbs in the three selected dictionaries emerges as satisfying – except for the *Reverso-Collins*, as 19,5% of highly frequent verbs are missing -, the analysis however also indicates that the display of these multi-word verbs can be troublesome.

In Table 3, the 36 listed multi-word verbs have been classified into 6 categories according to how they are displayed within the three online dictionaries, namely Headword, Sub-entry +, Sub-entry, Example-sentence, Example-collocation, Not included.

- The category *sub-entry +* covers cases—although this remains a subjective opinion—where the treatment of the sub-entry is well developed and becomes similar to the treatment headword-entries are given (e.g. Figures 1 and 2).
- The example-sentence category describes cases where the multi-word verb is only displayed in an example-sentence (e.g. “on est encore loin d'avoir fini” for *être loin de*)
- and the example-collocation category considers cases where one—or sometimes more—example of collocation is provided for the multi-word verb (e.g. “faire face à l'inflation/à la sécheresse” for *faire face à*).

Figure 1. Larousse: faire partie de

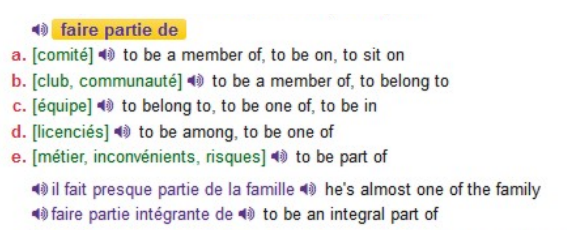


Figure 2. Larousse: mettre en place



Table 3. Display of the MWVs in the OBDs

[Headword | Sub-entry + | Sub-entry | Example Sentence | Example Collocation | Not included⁹]

Multi-word verb	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
Aller dans le sens de	Example-sentence	Not included	Example-sentence
Avoir le droit de	Sub-entry + example-sentences	Headword	Sub-entry + example-sentences
Avoir l'habitude de	Sub-entry	Headword	Example-sentences
Avoir lieu	Sub-entry	Headword	Sub-entry
Avoir recours à	Sub-entry +	Headword	Sub-entry
(se) Donner les	Sub-entry	Not included	Sub-entry

9 In the French-to-English part of the dictionary (meaning the multi-word verb unit *can* appear in the English-to-French part of the dictionary).

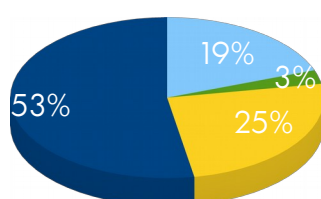
moyens de

Être à l'origine de	Not included	Sub-entry	Example-sentences + example collocations
Être à même de	Sub-entry	Headword	Sub-entry
Être de l'ordre de	Example-collocation	Not included	Sub-entry
Être en cause	Sub-entry	Sub-entry	Sub-entry
Être en mesure de	Example-collocation + example-sentences	Headword	Sub-entry
Être en train de	Sub-entry + example- sentence	Headword	Sub-entry + example- sentences
Être loin de	Example-sentence	Not included	Example-sentences
Être sur le point de	Sub-entry + example- sentence	Headword	Sub-entry + example- sentences
Faire croire que	Sub-entry (+ example- sentence)	Headword	Example-sentences
Faire en sorte que	Example-sentences	Sub-entry	Example-sentence
Faire face à	<i>Sub-entry +</i>	Headword	<i>Sub-entry +</i>
Faire la preuve de	Sub-entry	Not included	Example-sentence
Faire le choix de	Example-sentence	Not included	Not included
Faire l'objet de	<i>Sub-entry +</i>	Example-sentence	Example-sentence + example-collocations
Faire partie de	Sub-entry + example- sentence + example- collocations	Sub-entry	<i>Sub-entry +</i>
Faire pression sur	Sub-entry + example- sentence	Headword	Sub-entry
Faire preuve de	Sub-entry	Headword	Example-collocations
Jeter les bases de	Example-collocation	Headword	Not included
Mettre en cause	Sub-entry	Sub-entry	Sub-entry
Mettre en évidence	Sub-entry + example- sentence	Sub-entry	<i>Sub-entry +</i>
Mettre en oeuvre	<i>Sub-entry +</i>	Headword	Sub-entry + example- sentences
Mettre en place	<i>Sub-entry +</i>	Headword	<i>Sub-entry +</i>
Mettre fin à	Sub-entry + example- collocation	Headword	Example-sentences
Mettre un terme à	Sub-entry	Headword	Sub-entry
Ouvrir la voie à	Sub-entry	Headword	Sub-entry
Prendre en compte	Sub-entry	Headword	Sub-entry
Prendre la mesure de	Example-sentence + example-collocations	Not included	Sub-entry
Prendre part	Sub-entry + example-	Sub-entry + example-	<i>Sub-entry +</i>

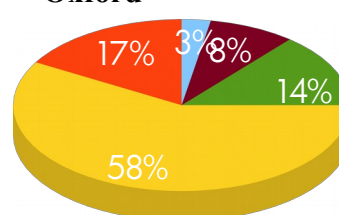
	sentence	sentence	
Remettre en cause	<i>Sub-entry +</i>	Sub-entry	Sub-entry + example-sentence
Tenir compte de	Sub-entry	Sub-entry + example-sentences	Sub-entry + example-sentence

Figure 3. Display: Results from Table 2.

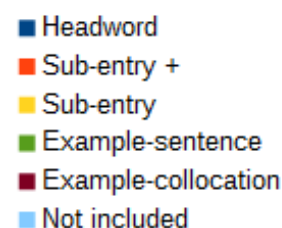
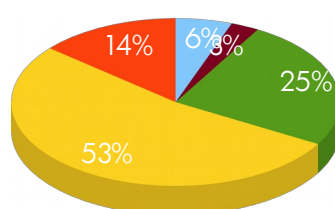
Reverso-Collins



Oxford



Larousse



As can be seen in Table 3, there are only few cases where multi-word verbs have the status of headword and the only occurrences are found in the *Reverso-Collins*, where they appear in the incremental search. However, important to highlight is that this status of headword may be controversial: it is indeed doubtful, whether we have to deal with a translation coming from the *Reverso-Collins* (and thus, from the work of lexicographers) or emerging from the *Collaborative Dictionary*, where the suggestions can come from anyone willing to add a translation. Further discussion about this issue is to be found in section III.2.3.2. In the *Larousse* and the *Oxford* dictionaries, 1 in 2 of the investigated MWVs appears as a sub-entry (sometimes supplemented with one example sentence or one example-collocation), which remains thus a recurring yet not sufficient treatment. In some others cases, which have been labelled with the tag *Sub-entry +*, the MWVs seem to be well treated. Notwithstanding the quality of treatment of these sub-entries, they remain though a rather rare phenomenon with 14% of the surveyed MWVs in the *Larousse* dictionary and 17% in the *Oxford* dictionary. In the *Larousse* dictionary, 1 in 4 of the surveyed

MWVs is described in an example-sentence. If this is thereby an adequate way to show the occurrence of a MWV in a particular context, the selected 36 MWVs are highly frequent verbs in the French language and deserve consequently a more extensive treatment, given the range of possible contexts in which they can occur (and subsequently, the various translations in English they may have). In addition, an example-sentence hidden in an entry is not easy to find for a user.

In a nutshell, occurrences of multi-word verbs as headword entries in the OBDs are very infrequent or even almost non-existent. As claimed by Granger and Paquot (2008b: 1355), “many more [multi-word units nonetheless] deserve to have the status of headwords than is currently the case” and we should endeavour to overcome lexicographical difficulties for the sake of users' needs and an ease of accessibility. Why are all these French multi-word verbs – though all equal in terms of high frequency in the French language – treated differently? In the same perspective, Tono's (2000) study on the effects of different types of electronic dictionary interfaces has also concluded that MWUs are more accessible for a user if it is displayed as a headword, rather than buried into an entry. In the light of recent research (conducted by Lannoy 2010, Verlinde and Peeters 2012 or Granger and Lefer 2012 *inter alia*) which raised the important issue of the place of MWUs entries in dictionaries and agreed on “the converging evidence that a large number of current web-based lexical searches concern multi-word strings”, it becomes a necessity to ease the access to longer MWUs “and consider them not as second-rate citizens, but as fully-fledged entries on a par with single words” (Granger and Lefer, 2012: 691).

III.2.3 Accessibility

III.2.3.1 Browsing through the online dictionaries: an obstacle course

Even though the coverage of the multi-word verbs in the three selected dictionaries has conclusively proven to be satisfying (with the *Reverso-Collins'* exception), the analysis reveals that accessibility can be quite elusive in the three of them, and can even sometimes be compared to a real obstacle course for the user. Although one might think that using e-dictionaries in the 21st century is a piece of cake matter, it has to be emphasized that the look-up process of multi-word verbs is not always effortless and sometimes poses a thorny problem. In this section, we will give an overview of the various “strategies” that online bilingual dictionaries use to lead the user towards the queried MWU. A detailed description of the accessibility of each MWV in the online bilingual dictionaries

is available in Appendix 1.

In the *Oxford dictionary*, if the user types in a multi-word verb, he is generally directly redirected to the relevant entry and the searched item is highlighted in yellow with no need to scroll down the page, since the dictionary leads him directly to the right line in the entry. This is quite user-friendly. However, the highlighting process does not seem to be sufficient, as it only spotlights one single result while others might be relevant to the search. The user might consequently miss one possible translation or another that is displayed further in the entry or in an example-sentence (e.g. Figure 4 *faire en sorte que*, Figure 5-5b *faire pression sur*). It may also sometimes happen that the dictionary highlights an item that is not relevant to the search (e.g. Figure 6 *mettre en place*, Figure 7 *remettre en cause*) or also that nothing is highlighted at all, although the multi-word verb can actually be found within the entry (e.g. Figure 8 *mettre en cause*).

Figure 4. *Oxford*: Treatment of *faire en sorte de*

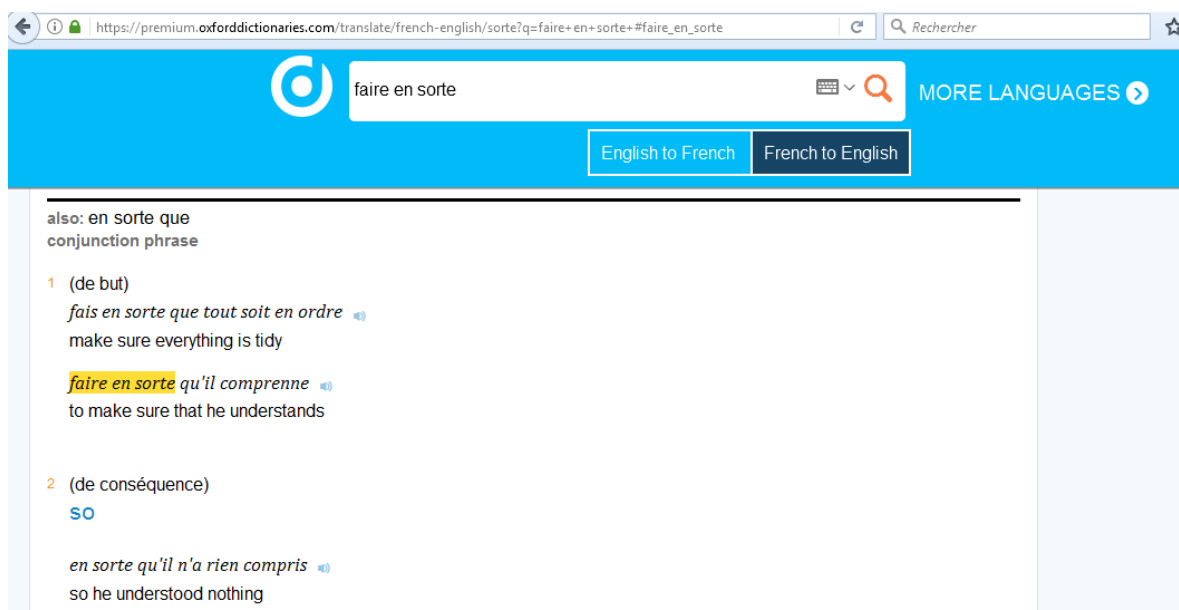


Figure 5. Oxford: Treatment of *faire pression sur*

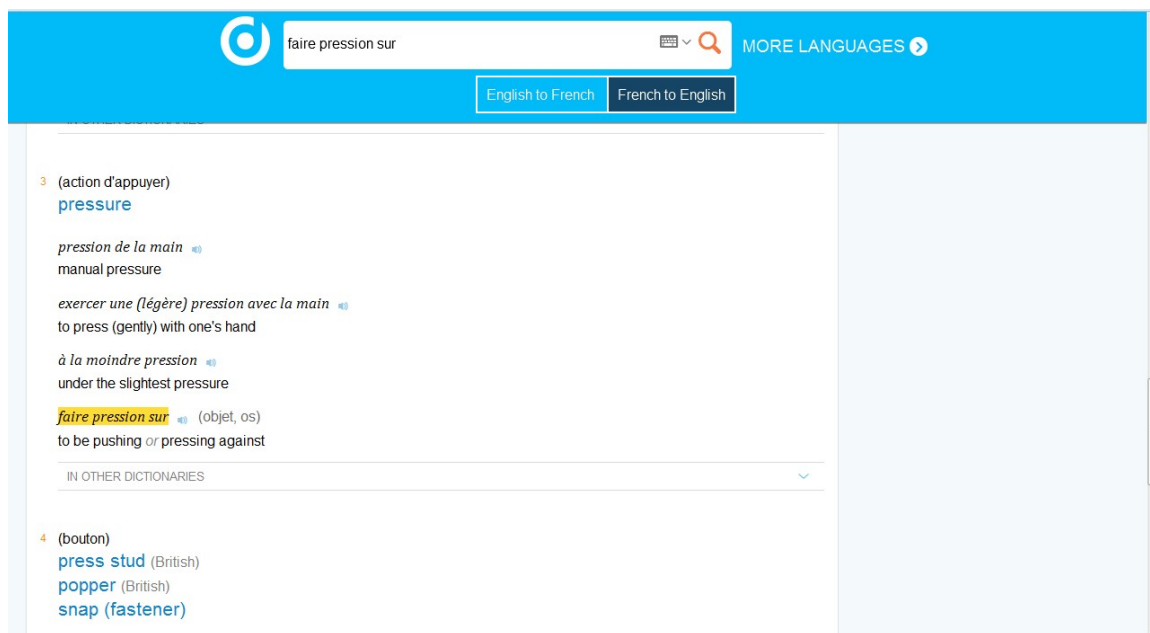


Figure 5b. Oxford: Treatment of *faire pression sur*

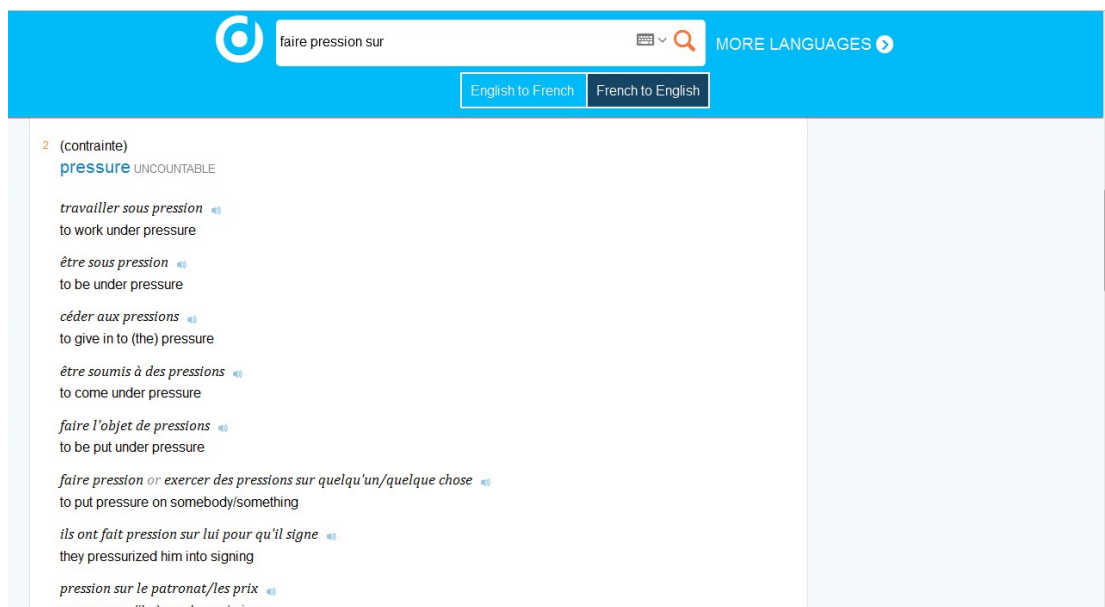


Figure 6. Oxford: Treatment of *mettre en place*

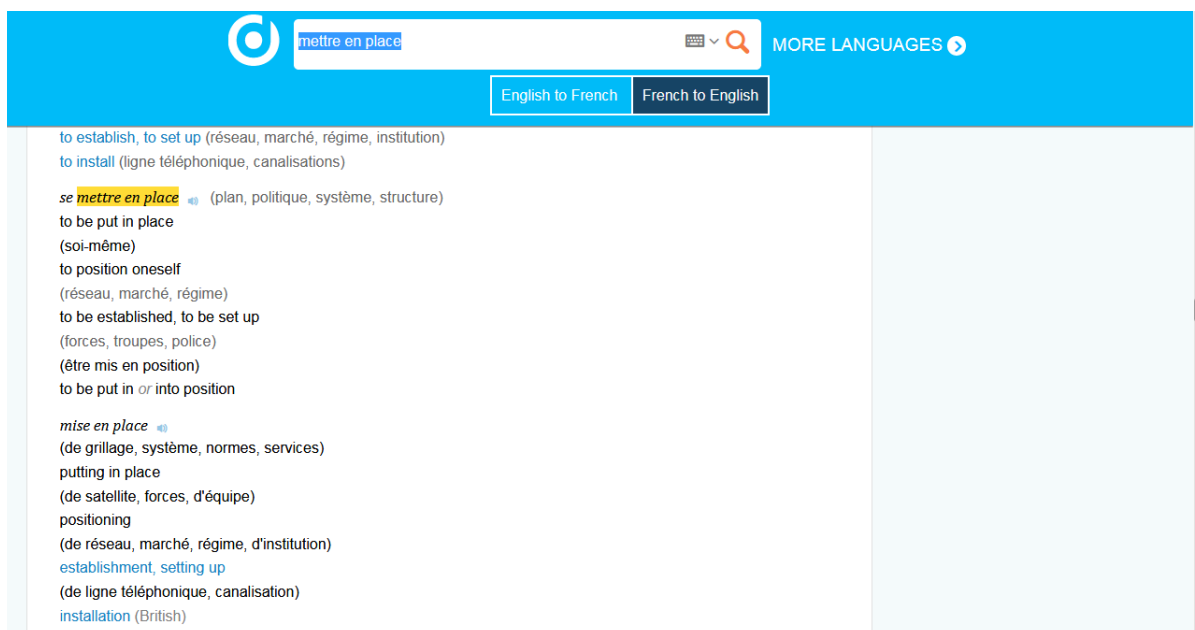


Figure 7. Oxford: Treatment of *remettre en cause*

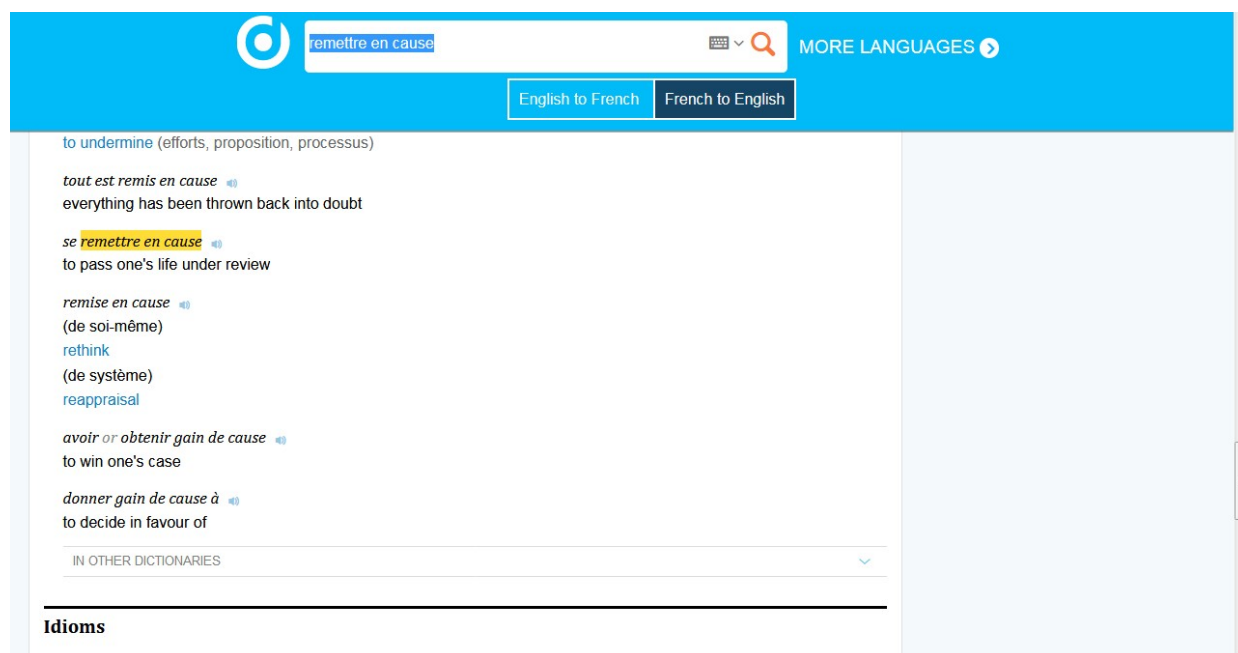


Figure 10. Larousse: Treatment of *mettre en place*

en place
locution adjectivale
[important] established
un homme politique en place a well-established politician
les gens en place disent que... the powers that be say that...

en place
locution adverbiale

1. [là] in position
les forces de police sont déjà en place the police have already taken up their position
est-ce que tout est en place ? is everything in order ou in its proper place?

2. (locution)
mettre en place
a. [équipement] to set up (separable), to install
b. [plan] to set up (separable), to put into action
c. [réseau] to set up (separable)
la méthode sera mise en place progressivement the method will be phased in (gradually)
ça va lui mettre/remettre les idées en place it'll give him a more realistic view of things/set him thinking straight again
tenir en place : ne tient pas en place
a. [il est turbulent] he can't keep still
b. [il est anxieux] he's nervous
c. [il voyage beaucoup] he's always on the move

par places
locution adverbiale
here and there

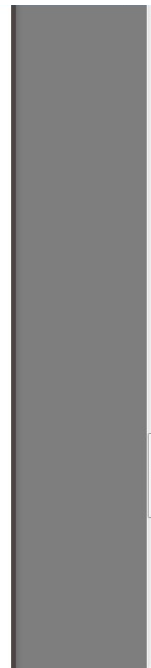


Figure 11. Larousse: Treatment of *mettre en cause*

en cause
locution adjectivale

1. [concerné] in question
la voiture en cause était à l'arrêt the car involved ou in question was stationary
la somme/le jeu en cause the amount/the thing at stake

2. [que l'on suspecte]
les financiers en cause the financiers involved
certains ministres sont en cause some ministers are implicated

3. [contesté]
être en cause [talent] to be in question
DROIT
affaire en cause case before the court

en cause
locution adverbiale

1. [en accusation]
mettre quelqu'un en cause to implicate somebody
mettre quelque chose en cause to call something into question

2. [en doute]
remettre en cause [principe] to question, to challenge
son départ remet tout en cause her departure reopens the whole question ou debate

en tout état de cause
locution adverbiale
in any case, at all events, whatever happens



Sometimes, the dictionary may also highlight the wrong line in the headword entry (e.g. Figure 12 *prendre part*), although the query can actually be found within the entry if the user peruses it (e.g.

Figure 12b *prendre part*). Besides, it can happen that the dictionary redirects the user to the entry matching the headword of the multi-word verb but that after having perused the full entry, no results are actually found for the queried MWU (e.g. Figure 13 *faire le choix de*).

Figure 12. *Larousse*: Treatment of *prendre part*

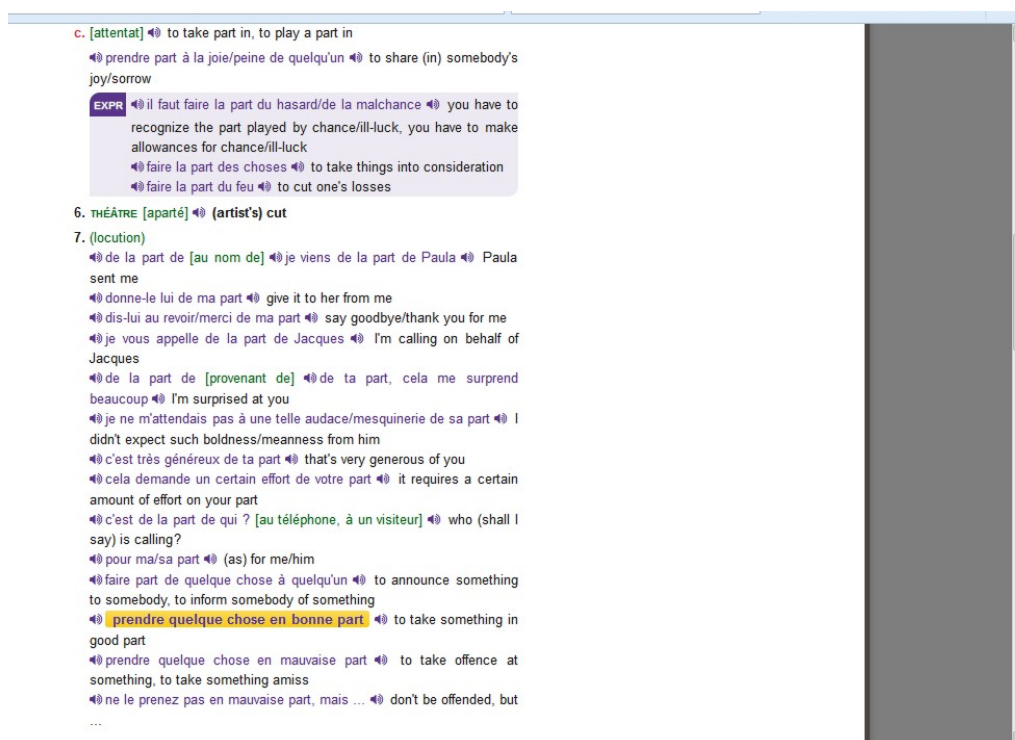


Figure 12b. *Larousse*: Treatment of *prendre part*

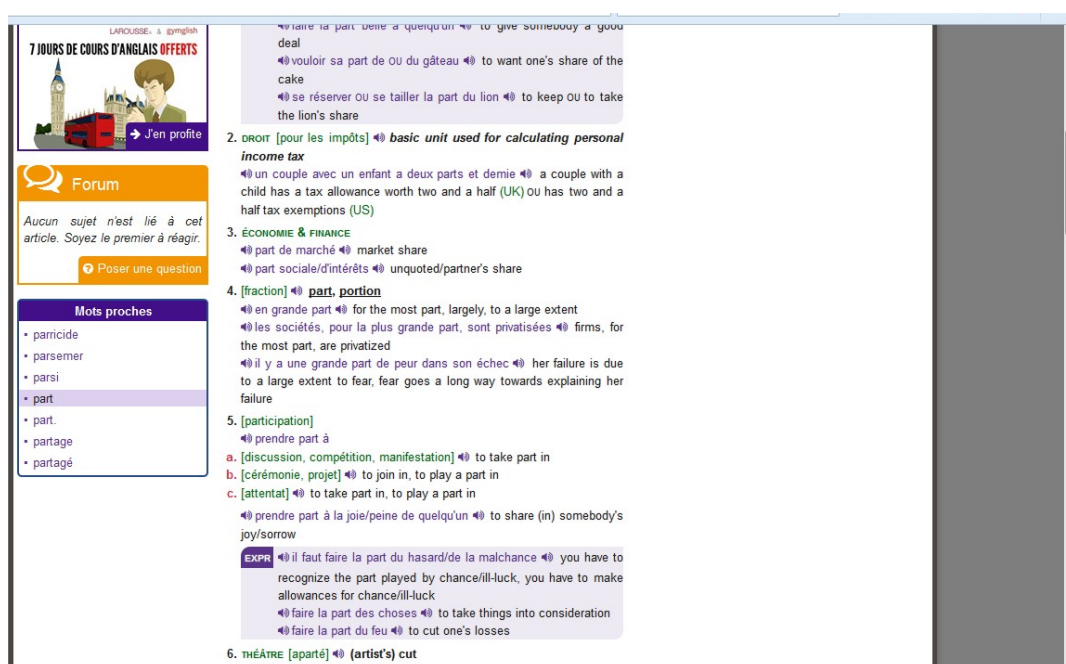


Figure 13. Larousse: Treatment of *faire le choix de*

The screenshot shows the Larousse website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Dictionnaires de français', 'Dictionnaires bilingues', 'Encyclopédie', 'Forums', 'Jeux', 'Cuisine', 'Archives', and 'Catalogue'. The search bar contains 'faire le choix de'. The main content area displays the entry for 'choix' with its phonetic transcription [ʃwa] and gender 'nom masculin'. It lists several definitions and examples, such as 'liberté de choisir', 'donner le choix à quelqu'un', and 'avoir le choix des armes'. There are also sections for 'Cours d'anglais' and 'Forum'. A sidebar on the left shows 'Mots proches' including 'choir', 'choisi', 'choisir', and 'choix'.

In some other cases, the look up process may involve several steps. For *prendre en compte* (cf. Figures 14 and 14b) and *prendre la mesure de* (cf. Figures 15 and 15b) for instance, the dictionary will redirect the user to the entry “prendre” instead of to the headword entry “compte” or “mesure”. After having perused the full entry, the user will not find any results. However, an interesting separate “collocation box” stands in the top left corner of the page and suggests MWUs such as “prendre la mesure de qqch” or “prendre qqch en compte”. If the user clicks on that suggestion, the dictionary will redirect him to the headword entry “compte” or “mesure” and the MWV will be highlighted in yellow (but he will have to scroll down the page to find it by himself). The same observation applies to the MWV *mettre fin à* (cf. Figure 16) where the “collocation box” redirects the user to several headword entries that might seem weird at first sight as regard to what the user is looking for, namely “tenir”, “attendre” and “fin”. The user will finally find example-sentences containing “mettre fin à” in 3 different entries, namely:

- [entry « tenir »] il ne tient qu'à toi de mettre fin à ce désordre → it's entirely up to you to sort out this shambles
- [entry « attendre »] le pays attend encore l'homme qui sera capable de mettre fin à la guerre civile → the country is still waiting for the man who will be able to put an end to the civil war
- [entry « fin »] mettre fin à quelque chose → to put an end to something
mettre fin à ses jours → to put an end to one's life, to take one's own life.

Figure 14. Larousse: Treatment of *prendre en compte*

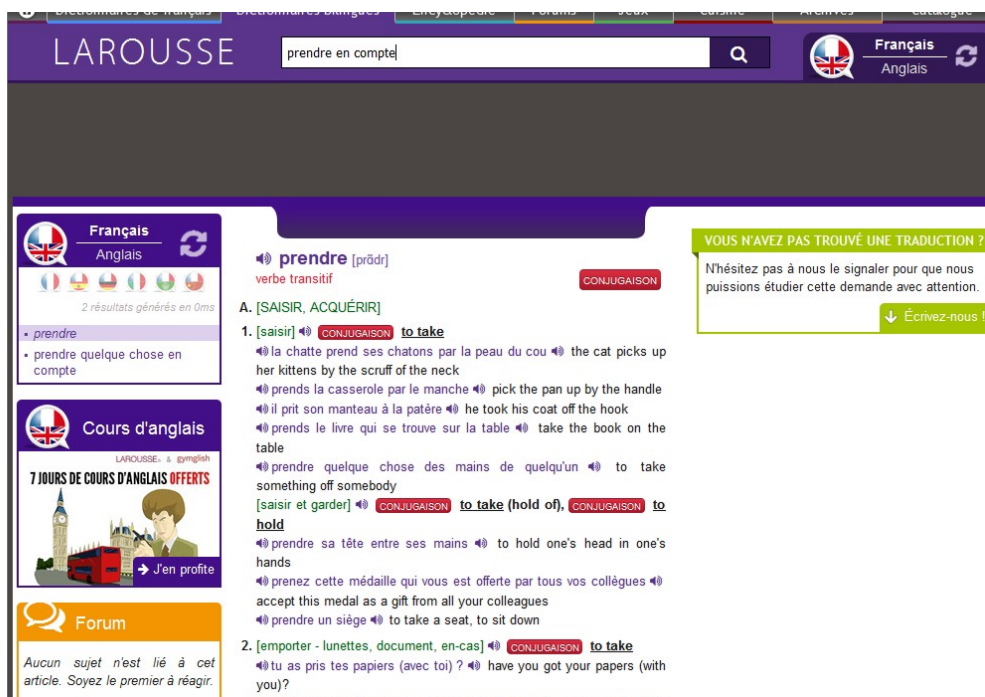


Figure 14b. Larousse: Treatment of *prendre en compte* (entry compte)

- a. [recette] → to credit a sum
- b. [dépense] → to debit a sum
 - nous sommes en compte, vous me réglerez tout à la fin → as we're doing business together, you may pay me in full at the end
- 2. [explication, compréhension]
 - demander des comptes à quelqu'un → to ask somebody for an explanation of something, to ask somebody to account for something
 - rendre des comptes (à quelqu'un) → to give OU to offer (somebody) an explanation
 - je n'ai pas de comptes à vous rendre → I don't have to justify myself to you
 - rendre compte de quelque chose à quelqu'un
 - a. [s'en expliquer] → to justify something to somebody
 - b. [faire un rapport] → to give an account of something to somebody
 - devoir des comptes à quelqu'un → to be responsible OU accountable to somebody
 - il ne te doit pas de comptes → he doesn't owe you any explanations
 - **prendre quelque chose en compte** [prendre en considération] → to take something into account OU consideration
 - se rendre compte de quelque chose → to realize something
 - te rends-tu compte de ce que tu fais ? → do you realize OU really understand what you're doing?
 - on lui a collé une étiquette dans le dos mais il ne s'en est pas rendu compte → somebody stuck a label on his back but he didn't notice
 - non mais, tu te rends compte ! (familier) [indignation] → can you believe it?
 - tenir compte de quelque chose → to take account of something, to take something into account
 - ne tenir aucun compte de quelque chose → to disregard something
 - elle n'a pas tenu compte de mes conseils → she took no notice of OU ignored my advice
 - compte tenu de → in view OU in the light of

Figure 15. Larousse: Treatment of *prendre la mesure de*

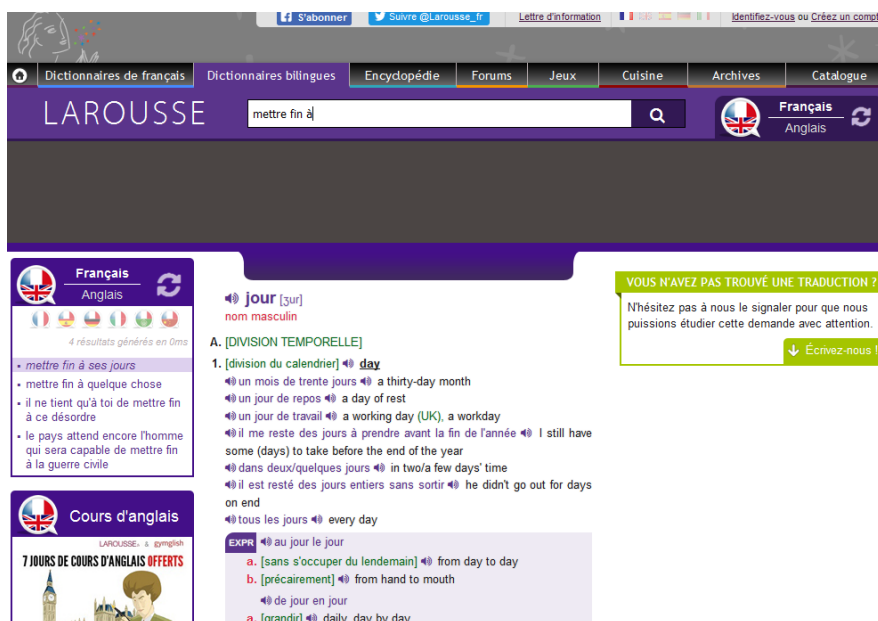
The screenshot shows the Larousse website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Dictionnaires de français, Dictionnaires bilingues, Encyclopédie, Forums, Jeux, Cuisine, Archives, and Catalogue. The main header features the Larousse logo and a search bar containing 'prendre la mesure de'. Below the search bar, there are several sections: 'Français Anglais' with a search icon, '2 résultats générés en 0ms', 'Cours d'anglais' with a '7 JOURS DE COURS D'ANGLAIS OFFERTS' banner, and a 'Forum' section. The main content area displays the definition of 'prendre' (pronounced [prɑ̃dr]) as a transitive verb. It lists several translations and examples:

- A. [SAISIR, ACQUÉRIR]**
 - 1. [saisir] **CONJUGAISON to take**
 - la chatte prend ses chatons par la peau du cou → the cat picks up her kittens by the scruff of the neck
 - prends la casserole par le manche → pick the pan up by the handle
 - il prit son manteau à la patère → he took his coat off the hook
 - prends le livre qui se trouve sur la table → take the book on the table
 - prendre quelque chose des mains de quelqu'un → to take something off somebody
 - [saisir et garder] **CONJUGAISON to take (hold of), CONJUGAISON to hold**
 - prendre sa tête entre ses mains → to hold one's head in one's hands
 - prenez cette médaille qui vous est offerte par tous vos collègues → accept this medal as a gift from all your colleagues
 - prendre un siège → to take a seat, to sit down
 - 2. [emporter - lunettes, document, en-cas] **CONJUGAISON to take**
 - tu as pris tes papiers (avec toi) ? → have you got your papers (with ...)

Figure 15b. Larousse: Treatment of *prendre la mesure de* (entry *mesure*)

6. [qualité] **mesure**
- il ne donne (toute) sa mesure que dans la dernière scène → he only displays the full measure of his talent OU only shows what he's capable of in the last scene
 - prendre la mesure d'un adversaire → to size up an opponent
7. ADMINISTRATION & DROIT & POLITIQUE **mesure, step**
- prendre des mesures pour enrayer une épidémie → to take steps to check an epidemic
- EXPR**
- mesure incitative → initiative
 - mesure préventive → preventative measure OU step
 - mesure de rétorsion → retaliatory measure, reprisal
 - mesure de sécurité → safety measure
 - par mesure de : → par mesure d'hygiène → in the interest of hygiene
 - par mesure de sécurité → as a safety precaution
 - mesure d'urgence → emergency measure
8. [degré] **extent**
- son attitude donne la mesure de son cynisme → his behaviour shows just how cynical he really is
 - prendre la (juste) mesure de quelque chose → to understand the full extent of something
 - dans la mesure de mes possibilités → insofar as I am able
 - dans la mesure du possible → as far as possible
 - dans la mesure où cela peut lui être agréable → insofar as OU inasmuch as he might enjoy it
 - dans une certaine mesure → to some OU a certain extent
 - dans une large mesure → to a large extent, in large measure (soutenu)
- EXPR**
- être en mesure de → to be able OU in a position to

Figure 16. Larousse: Treatment of *mettre fin à*



The accessibility to a MWV in the *Larousse* dictionary can be even more cumbersome: for the cases of *faire l'objet de* or *faire preuve de* for example, the dictionary redirects the user to a headword entry referring to an example of use of the MWV in a specific context (here, “poursuite” for “faire l'objet de” cf. Figure 17 and “jugement” for “faire preuve de” cf. Figure 18) and examples within the entry are highlighted (cf. Figure 17 “vous pouvez faire l'objet de poursuites” and Figure 18 “faire preuve de jugement”). However, the MWV *faire l'objet de* can actually be found under the headword entry “objet” (cf. Figure 17b) and the same observation applies to *faire preuve de* under the headword entry “preuve” (cf. Figure 18b).

Figure 17.
Larousse:
Treatment of
faire l'objet de

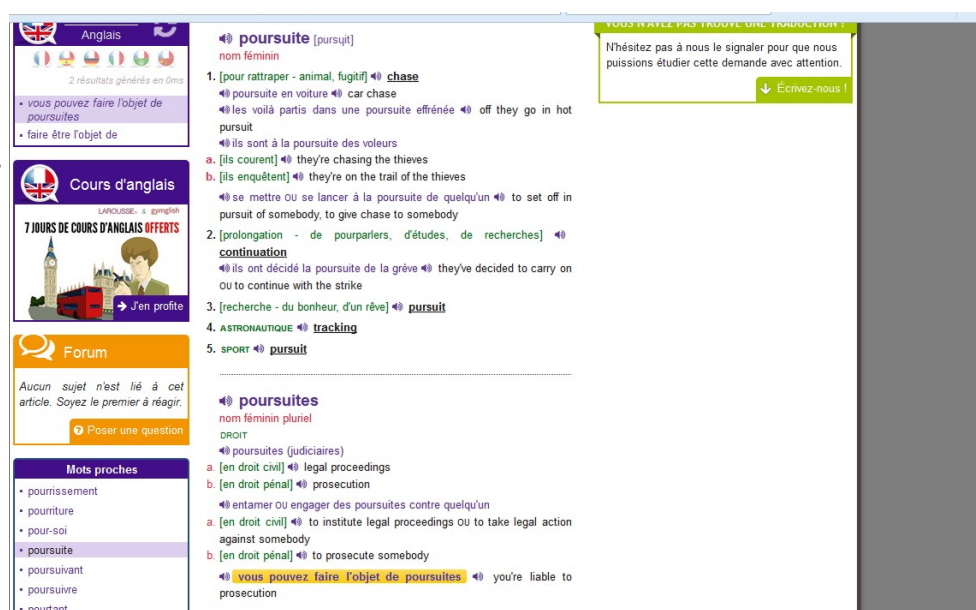


Figure 17b. Larousse: Treatment of *faire l'objet de*

The screenshot shows the Larousse dictionary entry for the phrase "faire l'objet de". The entry is structured as follows:

- obj** traiter quelqu'un comme un objet → to treat somebody like an object ou a thing
- EXPR**
 - objet d'art → objet d'art, art object
 - objet de luxe → luxury item
 - objet sexuel → sex object
 - objet volant non identifié → OVNI
 - objets personnels → personal belongings ou effects
 - objets de toilette → toilettries
 - objets trouvés → lost property (substantif non comptable)
 - c'est un homme-objet → he's a sex object
- 2. [thème] → subject**
 - l'objet de leurs discussions était toujours la politique → politics was always the subject of their discussions
 - EXPR** objet mathématique → mathematical construct
- 3. [personne] → object**
 - [raison] → cause**
 - objet de convoitise → object of envy
 - l'objet de sa curiosité/passion → the object of her curiosity/passion
- 4. [but] → object, purpose, aim**
 - exposer l'objet de sa visite → to explain the purpose of ou reason for one's visit
 - le congrès a rempli son objet, qui était d'informer → the congress has achieved its aim ou purpose, which was to inform
 - faire ou être l'objet de : → faire ou être l'objet de soins particuliers → to receive ou to be given special care
 - faire l'objet d'une fouille corporelle → to be subjected to a body search
 - faire l'objet d'attaques répétées → to be the victim of repeated attacks
 - l'ancien ministre fait actuellement l'objet d'une enquête → the former minister is currently being investigated
 - faire l'objet de controverses → to be a controversial subject
 - faire l'objet de vives critiques → to be the object ou target of sharp criticism

On the left side of the page, there are several navigation and promotional elements:

- A sidebar with "obj" and "sans objet" links.
- A "Cours d'anglais" banner for Larousse & English, advertising 7 days of free English courses.
- A "Forum" section with a message: "Aucun sujet n'est lié à cet article. Soyez le premier à réagir." and a "Poser une question" button.
- A "Mots proches" (Nearby words) list: objectiver, objectivisme, objectivité, objet, objurgations, obligatoire, obligation.

Figure 18. Larousse: Treatment of *faire preuve de*

The screenshot shows the Larousse dictionary entry for the phrase "faire preuve de". The entry is structured as follows:

- jugement** [ʒyʒmɑ̃] nom masculin
- 1. DROIT [verdict] → sentence, ruling, decision**
 - porter un jugement prématuré sur quelque chose → to judge something too hastily
 - DROIT**
 - prononcer ou rendre un jugement → to pass sentence, to give a ruling
 - faire passer quelqu'un en jugement → to bring somebody to (stand) trial
 - passer en jugement → to stand trial
 - EXPR**
 - jugement déclaratoire → declaratory judgment
 - jugement par défaut → judgment in absentia ou default
 - jugement définitif → final judgment
- 2. RELIGION**
 - le jugement dernier → the Last Judgment, Day of Judgment
 - le jugement de Dieu HISTOIRE → the Ordeal
- 3. [discernement] → judgment, flair**
 - erreur de jugement → error of judgment
 - faire preuve de jugement → to show sound ou good judgment
 - elle a du/n'a aucun jugement (en matière de...) → she's a good/no judge (of...)
- 4 [évaluation] → judgment**

On the right side of the page, there is a green box with the text: "VOUS N'AVEZ PAS TROUVÉ UNE TRADUCTION ? N'hésitez pas à nous le signaler pour que nous puissions étudier cette demande avec attention. Écrivez-nous !"

On the left side of the page, there are several navigation and promotional elements:

- A sidebar with "Français" and "Anglais" links, showing 12 results generated in 31ms.
- A "Cours d'anglais" banner for Larousse & English, advertising 7 days of free English courses.
- A "Forum" section.
- A list of related phrases: faire preuve de jugement, faire preuve de modestie, faire preuve de réalisme, faire preuve de ténacité, faire preuve de formalisme.

Figure 18b. Larousse: Treatment of *faire preuve de*

The screenshot shows the Larousse online dictionary interface for the French word "preuve". The main content area displays the word "preuve" with its English translation "proof, (piece of) evidence" and lists several numbered entries with examples and translations. The sidebar on the left contains navigation options like "Français", "Anglais", "Cours d'anglais", "Forum", and "Mots proches". A notification box at the top right asks if the user has found a translation and offers to help.

In the *Reverso-Collins dictionary*, the user is in most cases confronted with two main browsing-strategies as regards the MWVs: in the first case, when the user types in the MWV in the search bar, the queried term appears as a headword-entry in itself (e.g. Figure 19 “ouvrir la voie”)¹⁰. In the second case, when the user looks up a MWV, he is redirected to the headword-entry corresponding to the main verb of the MWV (e.g. Figure 20 “mettre” for “mettre en évidence”). In this particular type of situation, important to underline is that the user will actually hardly ever find the translation he is looking for under this type of entry and consequently loses his time perusing the suggestion. The problem is that the MWV *can* actually often be found in the dictionary: the user has simply to type in the headword of the MWV in the search bar (e.g. “évidence” for “mettre en évidence”, cf. Figure 20b) but will however have to peruse this entry to find the translation he is looking for. A major asset of the *Reverso* online dictionary is nonetheless the appearance of suggestions coming from the *Dictionnaire Collaboratif* and the *Exemples et traductions en contexte* parts for each of the typed in queries. These subsections of the dictionary appear beside the *Reverso-Collins* results and offer together a more detailed panel of possible translations. But this valuable help may be a two-edged solution, as we will discuss it in Section III.2.3.2.

¹⁰ This would be marvellous if there were not such a blurry border between the *Reverso-Collins* and the *Dictionnaire Collaboratif* part. Please refer to section III.2.3.2. for further explanation about this issue.

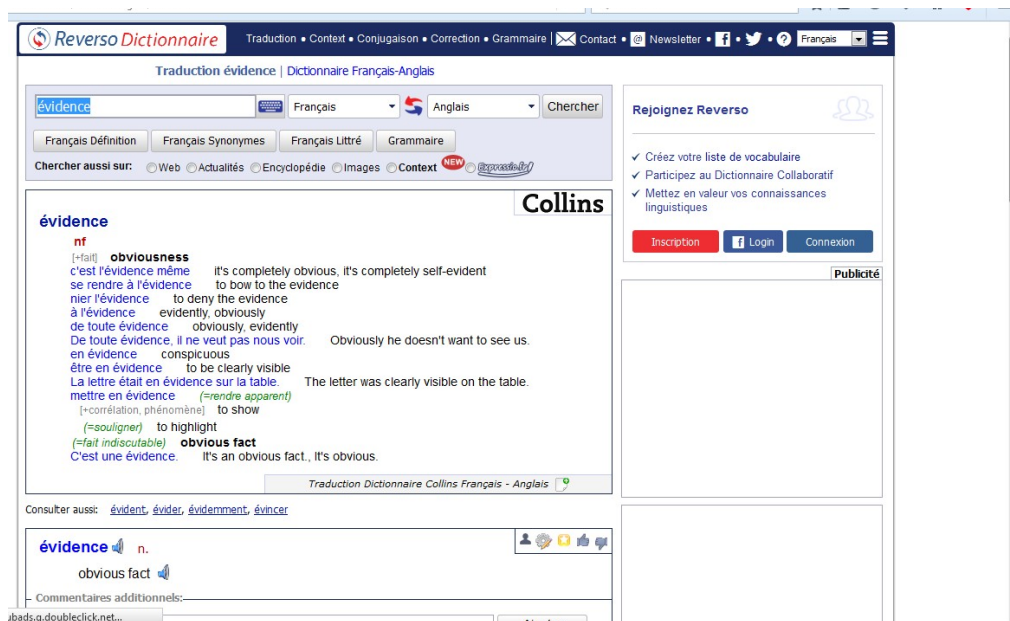
Figure 19. *Reverso*: Treatment of *ouvrir la voie*

The screenshot shows the Reverso Dictionnaire interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Traduction, Context, Conjugaison, Correction, Grammaire, and Contact. The search bar contains 'ouvrir la voie à' and is set to translate from French to English. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. The main content area displays the definition of 'ouvrir la voie' as 'pave the way ; open up the way'. Below this, there's a section for 'Entrée associée à : voie' and a list of related phrases like 'ouvrir la marche', 'ouvrir la parenthèse', etc. On the right side, there's a sidebar with a 'Rejoignez Reverso' section and a 'Publicité' section.

Figure 20. *Reverso*: Treatment of *mettre en évidence*

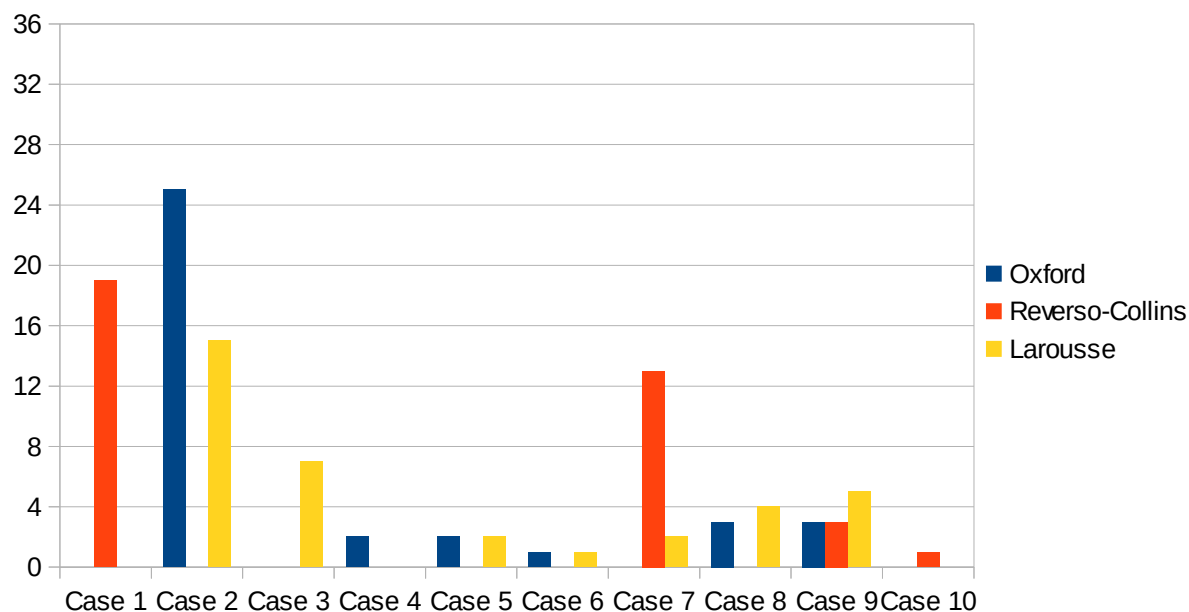
The screenshot shows the Reverso Dictionnaire interface for the search term 'mettre en évidence'. The search bar is set to translate from French to English. Below the search bar, there are tabs for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. The main content area displays the definition of 'mettre en évidence' as 'to put in evidence'. Below this, there's a section for 'Collins' and a list of related phrases like 'mettre en bouteille', 'mettre en sac', etc. On the right side, there's a sidebar with a 'Rejoignez Reverso' section and a 'Publicité' section.

Figure 20b. Reverso: Treatment of *mettre en évidence*



In short, as has been previously described, while we would expect the dictionaries to adopt the same “browsing-strategy” for each of the looked up multi-word verbs, it must be noted that these strategies may also vary within a single dictionary, which further hampers accessibility.

Figure 21. Typology of the “strategies” used by the online bilingual dictionaries¹¹



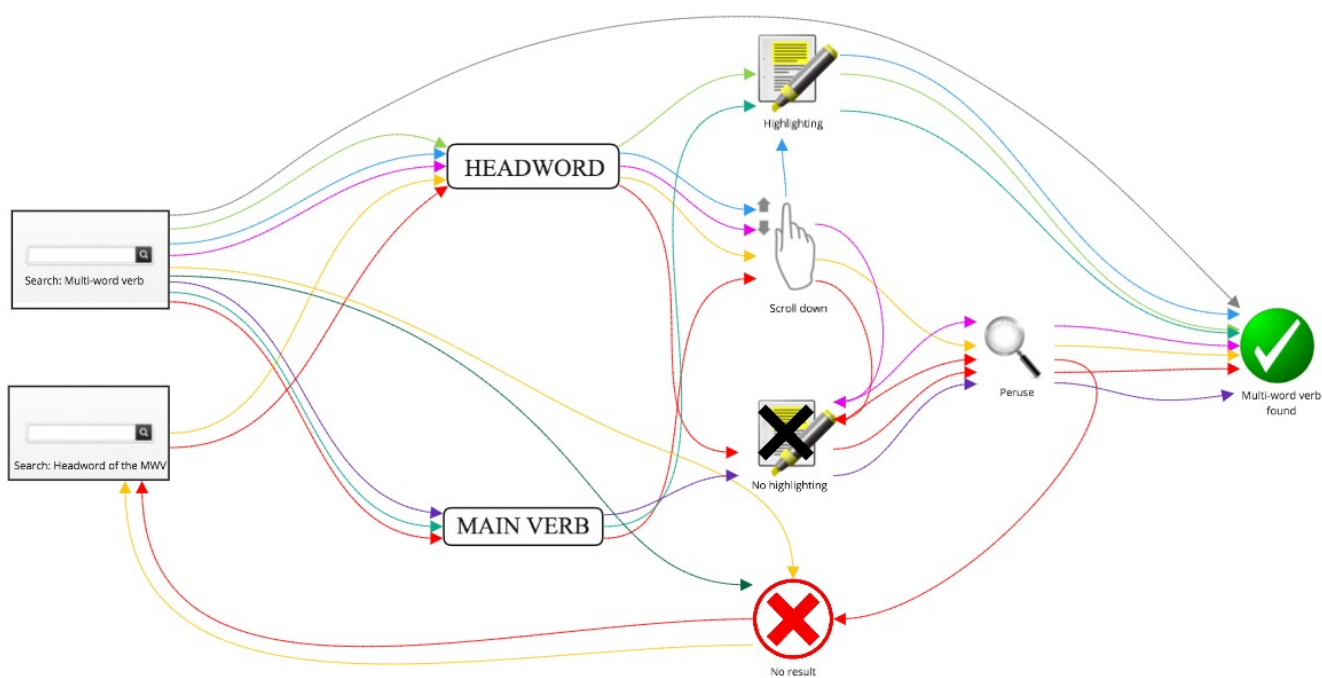
Case 1	Marvellous ¹² . When the user types in the MWV, it appears as an entry in itself
Case 2	Redirection to the headword of the MWV and clear highlighting of the query within the entry. No need to scroll down the page.
Case 3	Redirection to the headword of the MWV and clear highlighting of the query within the entry. The user has however to scroll down the page by himself.
Case 4	Redirection to the headword of the MWV but no highlighting. However the page is already scrolled down to the right place.
Case 5	Redirection to the headword of the MWV but no highlighting and the user has to peruse the full entry.
Case 6	Redirection to the main verb of the MWV and clear highlighting of the query within the entry.
Case 7	Redirection to the main verb of the MWV but no highlighting and the user has to peruse the full entry.
Case 8	Redirection to a headword entry that has nothing to do with the MWV
Case 9	Redirection to nothing: error-message “no result found”
Case 10	Redirection to an entry that resembles the MWV but is actually the wrong one.

¹¹ In this graph, we **only** consider the browsing strategies the online bilingual dictionaries use to lead the user to the queried MWV. It does not consider whether a result is eventually found or not. To see whether a result is found, please refer to Table 1 about coverage.

¹² This case is actually not that marvellous but extremely limited. For further explanation, please refer to the point **Reverso** in Section III.2.3.2.

Figure 21 shows the plethora of possible cases of accessibility among the various dictionaries where there should actually be one single strategy per dictionary, or even, at best, one single and same strategy for all of them. This irregularity fluctuates in 10 different cases (listed from the best to the worse one) that have been identified during the investigation of the 36 MWVs. After having had an insight into these various strategies, the use of the term “obstacle course” should now become clearer (cf. Figure 22).

Figure 22. Browsing through the online dictionaries: an obstacle course¹³



Even though the three online bilingual dictionaries do seem to be rather constant in their “browsing-strategy” on the whole, the fact that several strategies stand alongside one another in each of them or else that a confusion reigns between the *Dictionnaire collaboratif* and the *Reverso-Collins* (among other things), leads to a loss of trust for the user. A user may thus always be wary of the electronic strategies and manually check whether the MWV appears under the headword or not. In a nutshell, the primary cause of these problems of accessibility is the secondary status the multi-word verbs are granted in the dictionaries: as has been shown by the results of Table 3, very few of them are given the headword status.

¹³ A bigger version of this schema can be found in Appendix 2.

III.2.3.2 Strengths and weaknesses of the online dictionaries

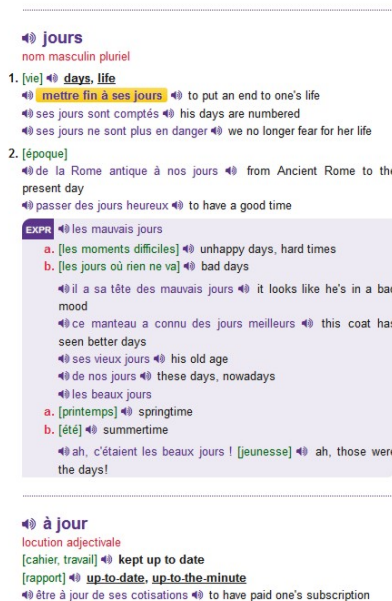
This section gives an insight into the various strengths and weaknesses of the online bilingual dictionaries' treatment of the MWVs witnessed while assessing their accessibility.

Larousse

The *Larousse* dictionary appears as user-friendly on the whole. Its layout is clear and it makes use of colours to ease the action of perusing. Furthermore, the MWVs are often displayed as clear sub-entries and these are in some cases very well developed. The dictionary also provides the user with an interesting separate box standing in the top left corner of the page which suggests links to other possible results found in other entries of the dictionary for the queried MWV. In the same perspective of user-friendliness, the dictionary offers a clear highlighting of the queried MWV within the right entry, with no need for the user to scroll down the page in most cases. This highlighting process seems however to be deficient, as the user sometimes has to scroll down the page by himself to spot it or even to peruse the full suggested entry because of non-existent highlighting. Finally, in case he does not find the translation he was looking for, the user is explicitly invited by a message on the top right corner of the page to write to the lexicographers.

Figure 23. *Larousse*: Treatment of *mettre fin à*

The screenshot shows the Larousse website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Dictionnaires de français', 'Dictionnaires bilingues', 'Encyclopédie', 'Forums', 'Jeux', 'Cuisine', 'Archives', and 'Catalogue'. The search bar contains 'mettre fin à'. Below the search bar, there are two main sections: 'Français Anglais' and 'Cours d'anglais'. The 'Français Anglais' section displays the search results for 'jour' [sur], a masculine noun. It lists several translations and examples, including 'un mois de trente jours', 'un jour de repos', 'un jour de travail', and 'il me reste des jours à prendre avant la fin de l'année'. The 'Cours d'anglais' section features a banner for '7 JOURS DE COURS D'ANGLAIS OFFERTS' and a list of expressions like 'sans s'occuper du lendemain', 'précairement', 'de jour en jour', and 'grandir'. A yellow box on the right side of the page contains a message: 'VOUS N'AVEZ PAS TROUVÉ UNE TRADUCTION ? N'hésitez pas à nous le signaler pour que nous puissions étudier cette demande avec attention. Écrivez-nous !'.



Oxford

The Oxford dictionary is the most constant of the three online dictionaries in its browsing-strategy: the user finds the suggestion to his query directly in the right entry thanks to the highlighting process, with no need to scroll down the page. This highlighting process seems however to be insufficient: since the layout is rather unclear (all black and grey, no indenting), if the dictionary highlights a suggestion and not the following or preceding ones, the user might miss one possible translation or another displayed further in the entry. For the case of *faire face à* for instance, the dictionary leads the user to the entry *face* and highlights “faire face à l’inflation/la sécheresse” (cf. Figure 24). Thinking that he does not have to scroll down by himself, as the dictionary usually leads him to the right place, the user may however miss the preceding suggestion, as displayed in Figure 24b. In addition, it also sometimes happens that the page is already scrolled down to the right place but the highlighting is non-existent (e.g. *mettre en oeuvre*). Besides, the dictionary provides the user with a “related words” box in the top right corner of the page, which allows the user to see whether the queried MWV also appears in other entries of the dictionary (cf. Figure 25). Finally, important to emphasize is that the MWVs are often displayed as clear sub-entries which are in some cases well developed (cf. *sub-entry* + in Table 2).

Figure 24. Oxford: treatment of *faire face à*

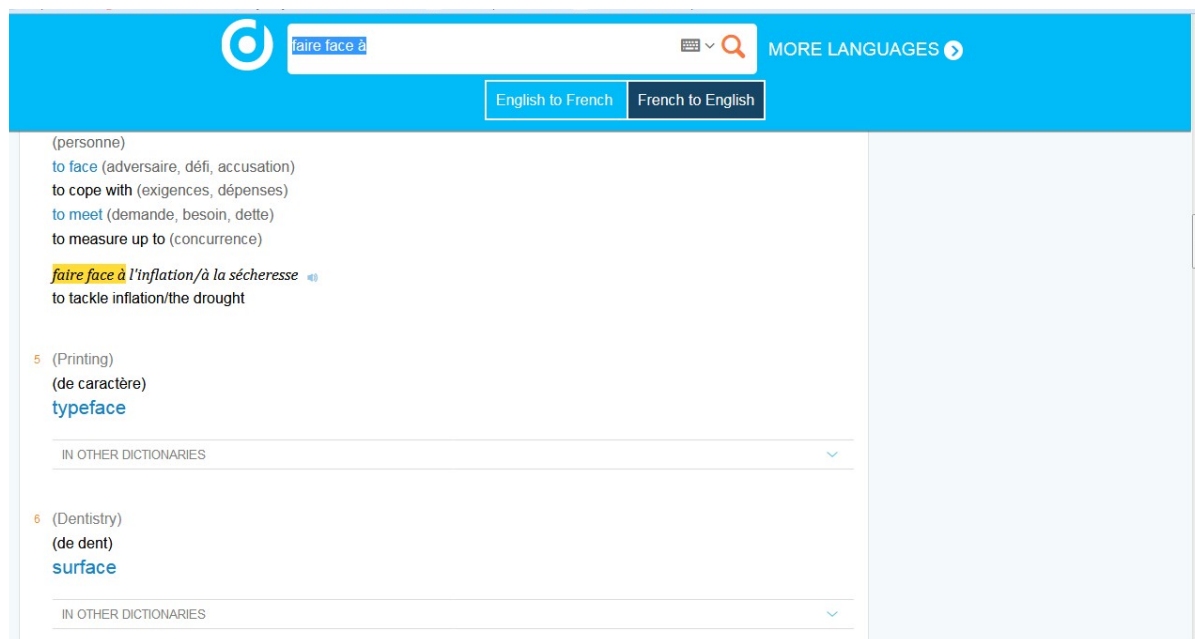


Figure 24b. Oxford: Treatment of *faire face à*

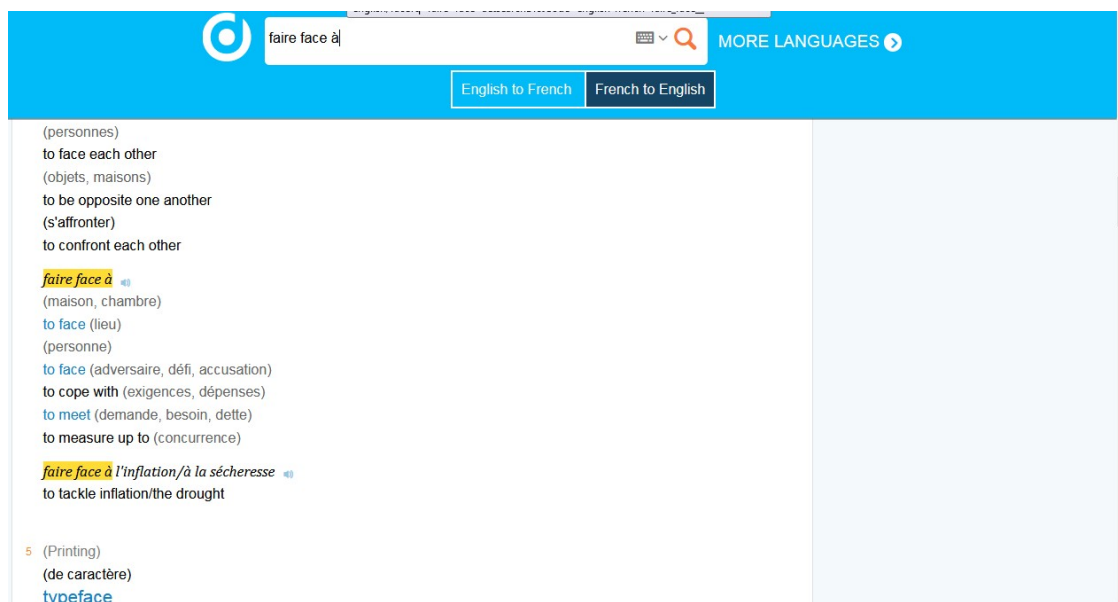
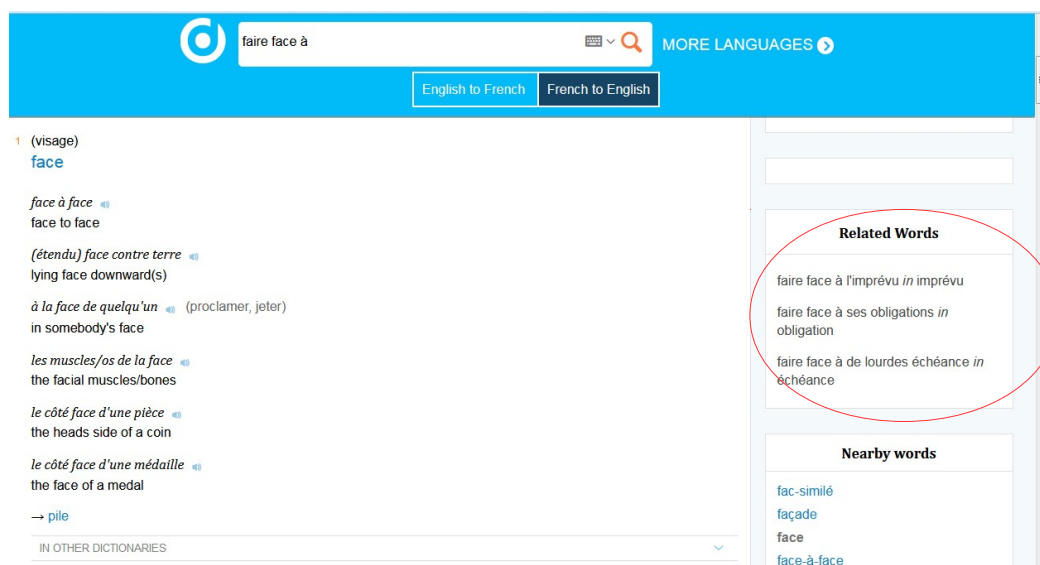


Figure 25. Oxford: Display of the “related words” box



Reverso

What is particularly striking for the *Reverso* dictionary in contrast to the two other online bilingual dictionaries investigated is that it clearly lacks highlighting, which hampers user-friendliness: the user always has to peruse the entries. The dictionary, however, has a major asset as it comprises two additional subsections, namely the *Dictionnaire Collaboratif* and the *Exemples et traductions en contexte* parts. They both constitute a valuable help for the user as they offer a wider range of possible translations. The *Dictionnaire Collaboratif* allows subscribed users – whoever they are – to suggest further translations to the dictionary. Once the translation has been uploaded, the other users have the possibility to like, unlike or comment on it. The *Exemples et traductions en contexte* part is a subsection that relies on the *Reverso-Context* platform and displays the queried term within a particular context in example-sentences. A mention specifies that for the results found in this section, the dictionary makes use of the software *Tradooit*¹⁴ as well as its data.¹⁵ Moreover, the dictionary also sometimes simultaneously displays a section gathering the results found for the queried MWV in the English-to-French part, which is a user-friendly detail, since the user will effortlessly be provided with a wider range of possible translations. Finally, the *Reverso* Dictionary is the only one of the three surveyed dictionaries to display incremental search results for some of

14 <http://www.tradooit.com/>

15 e.g. <http://dictionnaire.reverso.net/francais-anglais/prendre%20en%20compte>, end of the webpage.

the MWVs, which allows users to go easier and faster to the queried term. The problem with these incremental results is that some of them only lead the user to the unreliable *Collaborative Dictionary* (e.g. Figure 26 *être à même de faire*).

Figure 26. *Reverso*: Treatment of *être à même de*

The screenshot shows the Reverso Dictionnaire interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Traduction, Context, Conjugaison, Correction, Grammaire, Contact, Newsletter, and social media icons. Below this is a search bar with the text 'être à même de faire' and dropdown menus for 'Français' and 'Anglais'. There are also buttons for 'Chercher', 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. A section for 'Chercher aussi sur:' includes options for Web, Actualités, Encyclopédie, Images, Context, and @reverso.fr. The main content area is titled 'Dictionnaire Collaboratif Français-Anglais' and lists several entries for 'être à même de faire' and related phrases like 'être à même', 'être à même distance', 'mettre qn à même de faire', 'être de même', 'à même de', 'en être de même', and 'être du même avis'. Each entry includes a part of speech (exp., v., prep., adv.), an English translation, and icons for social media and user interaction. A 'Publicité' section is visible on the right side of the page.

As it has been shown by our analysis, the dictionary seems to adopt two main browsing strategies: either the main verb of the MWV is displayed and the user has to peruse the full entry or the MWV is displayed as a headword-entry in itself. In the first case, the dictionary usually redirects the user to the wrong entry: after having perused the full entry corresponding to the main verb of the MWV (e.g. *faire* for *faire partie de*), the user will hardly ever find any result to his query. It would be more adequate for the dictionary to redirect the user toward the entry corresponding to the headword of the MWV (e.g. *partie* for *faire partie de*), where the queried MWV can actually be found most of the time. A piece of advice for learners using the *Reverso* dictionary would thus be to always check whether the queried MWV appears under the entry corresponding to the headword. In the second case, the display of the MWV as a headword-entry in itself would be an ideal solution if the reliability of these entries was not subjected to controversial discussion. The blurry boundary between the *Reverso Collins* and the *Dictionnaire Collaboratif* lowers the user's degree of trust: we do not know whether we are in the *Reverso Collins* part or in the *Dictionnaire Collaboratif*. When the MWV is displayed as a headword-entry, the user can see icons on the right of the entry, indicating whether this entry has been created by the Reverso team (cf. Figure 27) or whether this entry is a validated collaborative entry (cf. Figure 28).

Figure 27. *Reverso-Collins*: Headword-entry by Reverso-Team

The screenshot shows the Reverso-Collins website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Reverso Dictionnaire' and various menu items like 'Traduction', 'Context', 'Conjugaison', etc. The main content area is titled 'Traduction prendre en compte | Dictionnaire Français-Anglais'. It features a search bar with 'Français' and 'Anglais' dropdowns and a 'Chercher' button. Below the search bar are tabs for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. A section for 'Chercher aussi sur:' includes options for 'Web', 'Actualités', 'Encyclopédie', 'Images', 'Context', and 'Expressio.fr'. The main entry for 'prendre en compte' is shown with its English translation 'take into account' and a '[Bus.]' tag. A yellow tooltip is overlaid on the entry, displaying: 'Auteur: Reverso Team', 'Créée: 03/10/2012', 'Validée: Oui', and 'Votes actuels: » pour: 1 » contre: 1'. Below the main entry is a 'Dictionnaire Collaboratif Français-Anglais' section listing related phrases such as 'prendre à son compte', 'prendre qch à son compte', 'prendre en note', 'prendre en main', 'prendre en sténo', 'prendre en défaut', and 'prendre en charge', each with its English translation and a '[Bus.]' tag. On the right side, there are promotional banners for 'COFFRETS WEEKEND' and 'WITH ICE'.

Figure 28. *Reverso-Collins*: Validated collaborative headword-entry

The screenshot shows the Reverso-Collins website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Reverso Dictionnaire' and various menu items like 'Traduction', 'Context', 'Conjugaison', etc. The main content area is titled 'Traduction faire croire que | Dictionnaire Français-Anglais'. It features a search bar with 'Français' and 'Anglais' dropdowns and a 'Chercher' button. Below the search bar are tabs for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. A section for 'Chercher aussi sur:' includes options for 'Web', 'Actualités', 'Encyclopédie', 'Images', 'Context', and 'Expressio.fr'. The main entry for 'faire croire que' is shown with its English translation 'make believe' and a '[Bus.]' tag. A yellow tooltip is overlaid on the entry, displaying: 'Auteur: antonio dacunha', 'Créée: 11/10/2016', 'Validée: Oui', and 'Votes actuels: » pour: 2 » contre: 0'. Below the main entry is a 'Dictionnaire Collaboratif Français-Anglais' section listing related phrases such as 'faire croire aux Français que', 'faire croire', 'faire croire qch à qn', 'faire croire n'importe quoi à quelqu'un', 'croire faire', 'croire que', and 'croire que oui', each with its English translation and a '[Bus.]' tag. On the right side, there are promotional banners for 'Lapperre' and a mobile phone.


As it can be seen from Figures 27 and 28, there are no ways to distinguish an entry which has been created by the Reverso Team and another one that is a validated collaborative entry at first sight. The user always has to check by himself, clicking on this icon: . In Table 4, we check the headword-entries suggested in the incremental search available in the dictionary.

Table 4. Assessment of the validation of the headword-entries in the *Reverso-Collins*

Headword entry	Author = Reverso-Team	Validated Collaborative entry
Avoir le droit de	✓	
Avoir l'habitude de faire qqch	✓	
Avoir lieu	✓	
Avoir recours à	✓	
A même de	✓	
Etre à même	✓	
Etre en mesure de		✓
Etre en train de faire qqch	✓	
Etre sur le point de faire	✓	
Faire croire	✓	
Faire croire qch à qn	✓	
Faire croire que		✓
Faire face à		✓
Faire face à qqch	✓	
Faire pression sur	✓	
Faire preuve de	✓	
Jeter les bases	✓	
Jeter les bases de	✓	
Mettre en œuvre	✓	
Mettre en place	✓	
Mettre fin à	✓	
Mettre un terme	✓	
Mettre un terme à	✓	
Ouvrir la voie	✓	
Prendre en compte	✓	

Fortunately, the majority of the checked headword-entries are created by the Reverso team. The rate of it reaches however only 88% of the surveyed entries, implying that the user should always want to be careful while being displayed a headword-entry. Work of lexicographers is a significant work whereas the collaborative entries have no value unless they are validated by the lexicographers'

team. We stand however in a position to wonder whether the Reverso team does actually check the translations suggested by the members who subscribed to the collaborative tools, since they do not explicitly expand on their procedure on their website. In the explanatory section, the user can read the following information:

Collaborative tools

With Lexibase Intranet each user can now take part in the creation of a collaborative corporate customized dictionary, by adding their own entries (words or expressions). The user can access a specific module to display or correct his own entries. Entries from other users will only be accessible after validation by the dictionary administrator. Dictionary search results will be displayed from both main and collaborative dictionaries. The collaborative dictionary is an optional module.

On Reverso Intranet the feedback module enables users to send translation feedback or make suggestions about the service (features, look and feel, etc.). Our linguists will take into account suggestions to optimize the service.¹⁶

Furthermore, in some cases (e.g. Figure 29 *être à l'origine de*) the MWV is not displayed as a headword-entry, although the translation is available in the “Collaborative Dictionary” *and* as a sub-entry under the headword of the MWV. This issue leads to a misunderstanding: What does the Reverso team choose as criteria for a MWU to be displayed as a headword-entry or not? Do some translations within the entries in the “Reverso-Collins” come from the “Collaborative dictionary” too? The boundary between both parts of the dictionary remains fuzzy. Another issue that may come out is when the translation of a MWV that is suggested as a headword-entry does *not* match the translation suggested in the entry corresponding to the headword of the MWV (cf. Figure 30 *faire croire que*). They should be similar! The translations suggested as sub-entries are also sometimes less detailed (e.g. Figure 31 *ouvrir la voie* vs *voie*). The piece of advice to always check the headword of the MWV consequently seems to be even more relevant, even though it is supposed to be a basic lexicographic skill. To conclude, true and reliable results of MWVs displayed as headword-entries seem to be extremely limited in the *Reverso Dictionary*.

¹⁶ <http://reverso.softissimo.com/en/collaborative-dictionary>

Figure 29. Reverso-Collins: Treatment of être à l'origine de

The left screenshot shows the search results for 'être à l'origine de' in French to English. It lists several entries with their parts of speech and English equivalents: 'être à l'origine de' (exp.) 'to be behind', 'être à l'origine de' (exp.) 'to be the cause of', 'à l'origine de' (prep.) 'at the origin of', 'à l'origine' (adv.) 'originally', 'dès l'origine' (exp.) 'from the outset', 'dès l'origine' (adv.) 'from the start', 'être à sec' (v.) 'be dry (vi.); be broke (vi.)', 'être à flot' (exp.) 'to be afloat', and 'être à même' (v.) 'be able'. A link 'Voir tous les résultats' is provided. Below the list, it says 'être à l'origine de' également trouvé dans les traductions du dictionnaire Anglais-Français to be at the bottom of sth exp. être à l'origine de qch.

The right screenshot shows the detailed entry for 'origine' in Collins. It includes the part of speech 'nf', definitions like '[+événement, phénomène, coutume] origin', and examples: 'avoir son origine dans' 'to have its origins in, to originate in', 'être à l'origine de' 'to be the cause of, to be behind'. It also lists related terms: 'source' ([+message, appel téléphonique]), 'root' ([+révolution, réussite]), 'origin' ([+personne]), 'd'origine modeste' 'from a modest background', 'd'origine française' 'of French origin', 'dés l'origine' 'from the outset', 'à l'origine' 'originally', 'd'origine' 'of origin', 'original' ([pneus]), 'original' ([bureau postal]), 'dispatching', 'origines' ([personne]), and 'origins'.

Figure 30. Reverso-Collins: Treatment of faire croire que

The left screenshot shows the search results for 'faire croire que' in French to English. It lists the translation 'faire croire que' (v.) 'make believe'. There is a field for 'Commentaires additionnels:' with an 'Ajouter' button.

The right screenshot shows the detailed entry for 'croire' in Collins. It includes the part of speech 'vt', definitions like '(=considérer comme vrai)', and examples: 'Il croit tout ce qu'on lui raconte' 'He believes everything he's told.', 'à en croire qn' 'according to sb', 'À l'en croire, tout ne serait qu'une coïncidence' 'According to her, it's all just a coincidence.', 'à en croire les sondages' 'if the polls are to be believed', 'à en croire les journaux' 'If we can believe what we read in the papers', '→ à en croire les journaux, la crise est imminente', 'faire croire qch à qn' 'to lead sb to believe sth', 'croire qn honnête' 'to believe sb to be honest, to think that sb is honest', 'croire que' 'to think that, to think', 'Tu crois qu'il fera meilleur demain?' 'Do you think the weather will be better tomorrow?', 'croyant bien faire, Certains, croyant bien faire, ont administré des doses très élevées.' 'Some, thinking they were doing the right thing, administered very large doses.', '→ pourtant, croyant bien faire, de nombreuses mamans continuent à donner consciencieusement du jus d'orange aux tout-petits', '(=imaginer) 'croire être' 'to think one is', 'croire faire' 'to think one does'.

Figure 31. Reverso-Collins: Treatment of *ouvrir la voie*

The screenshot shows the Reverso Dictionnaire interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Traduction, Context, Conjugaison, Correction, and Grammaire. The main heading is 'Traduction ouvrir la voie | Dictionnaire Français-Anglais'. Below this, there is a search bar containing 'ouvrir la voie' and dropdown menus for 'Français' and 'Anglais'. A 'Chercher' button is to the right. Below the search bar are buttons for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. There are also radio buttons for 'Chercher aussi sur:' with options for Web, Actualités, Encyclopédie, Images, Context (marked as NEW), and @expressio.fr. The main content area shows the translation 'ouvrir la voie v.' with a speaker icon and a 'v.' label. Below this is the English translation 'pave the way ; open up the way' with a speaker icon. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Entrée associée à :voie' and a 'Commentaires additionnels:' section with a text input field and an 'Ajouter' button.

The screenshot shows the Reverso Dictionnaire interface for the search term 'voie'. The search bar contains 'voie' and the dropdown menus are set to 'Français' and 'Anglais'. The 'Chercher' button is to the right. Below the search bar are buttons for 'Français Définition', 'Français Synonymes', 'Français Littéré', and 'Grammaire'. There are also radio buttons for 'Chercher aussi sur:' with options for Web, Actualités, Encyclopédie, Images, Context (marked as NEW), and @expressio.fr. The main content area shows the word 'voie' with a 'Collins' logo in the top right corner. Below 'voie' are the grammatical categories 'vb' (with a sub-entry 'voir') and 'nf'. The 'nf' section is followed by '(=chemin, moyen) way'. The main list of translations includes: 'ouvrir la voie to open up the way', 'montrer la voie to show the way', 'par voie aérienne by air', 'par voie maritime by sea', 'suivre la voie hiérarchique to go through official channels', 'être en bonne voie to be shaping up, to be going well', 'mettre qn sur la voie to put sb on the right track', 'être en voie d'achèvement to be nearing completion', and 'être en voie de rénovation to be in the process of renovation'. Below this is a sub-section for '[+corps]' with 'par voie buccale, par voie orale orally' and 'à prendre par voie buccale to be taken orally'. The 'par voie rectale rectally' entry is followed by '(CHEMINS DE FER) track, line'. The final entries are 'à voie unique single-track', 'à voie étroite narrow-gauge', '(AUTOMOBILES) lane', 'route à 2 voies 2-lane road', and 'route à 3 voies 3-lane road'.

CHAPTER IV: SUGGESTED TRANSLATIONS OF THE MWVs IN THE FRENCH-ENGLISH ONLINE BILINGUAL DICTIONARIES

IV.1 AIM OF THE ANALYSIS

The preceding chapter has revealed some issues in the treatment of MWVs in terms of coverage and accessibility. This analysis has also allowed us to spot various suggestions of translation for each of the MWVs in the three OBDs. After having checked and assessed the coverage and accessibility of the 36 listed MWVs in the three selected online bilingual dictionaries, the aim of the present analysis is now to assess the suggested translations of the 36 MWVs in these three dictionaries. In the light of the established necessity to use corpora in the processing of bilingual lexicography, this study relies on corpus data from the unidirectional translation corpus *LABEL France* which consists of c. 1,5 million words of French texts translated into English. Aware of some of this corpus' caveats, the *British National Corpus* (BYU BNC) will secondly be investigated to lend further support to the observations made. With a wish to make the dictionaries as reliable and complete as possible, the following research questions will be addressed on the basis of the corpus data: Which translations of the MWVs are the most frequent ones? In which context/register are they used? Are the translations suggested in the dictionaries correct? Are there some wrong translations; are there some important missing ones? Should we suggest a reordering of the translations?

In this respect, Section 2 gives an overview of the translations suggested in the three online bilingual dictionaries and Section 3 shows the results found within the *LABEL France* corpus. In Section 4, frequency of the results found in the *LABEL France* corpus and in the three surveyed OBDs is checked using the *BYU BNC* corpus, followed by an assessment of the collocations they suggest.

IV.2 SUGGESTED TRANSLATIONS OF THE MWVs IN THE THREE ONLINE BILINGUAL DICTIONARIES (FR → EN)

IV.2.1 Suggested translations

The following table (cf. Table 5) records all the translations suggested in the three online bilingual dictionaries. Translations coming from the “Dictionnaire Collaboratif” and the “Exemples et traductions en contexte” parts of the *Reverso Dictionary* (written in grey in the table) are not taken

into account in this analysis since we only want to evaluate the *dictionaries'* performances. We have nevertheless chosen to display them in the table since on the one hand, they are part of what the user may use to find the translation he is looking for and, on the other hand, because not mentioning them would be an unfair threat to the OBD that offers those options to the user.

Table 5. Suggested translations in the three OBDs

Multi-word verb	Oxford	Reverso			Larousse
		Collins	Dictionnaire collaboratif	Exemples et traductions en contexte	
Aller dans le sens de	- to be in line with - to move toward(s)	/	/	- to move forward with - to move toward(s) - to go in the direction	- to direct at
Avoir le droit de	- to be allowed to do - to have the right to do	- to be allowed to	/	- to have the right to - to be allowed to	- to be allowed to - to have the right to - to be entitled to do
Avoir l'habitude de	- to be used to sth - to be used to doing	- to be used to doing sth	- to be in the habit of doing - to be used to sth/sb - to be used to doing sth	- to get used to - to have the reflex of (consulting) - to have a pattern - to be used to + ing - to be familiar with + ing	- to normally or usually do sth - to be in the habit of doing - to be used to
Avoir lieu	- to take place	- to take place	/	- to take place - (l'audience) be held	- to take place - to happen - to occur
Avoir recours à	- to have recourse to - to resort to - to turn to - to go to	- to resort to	/	- to use - to resort to	- to resort to - to turn to
Donner les moyens de	- to find the means to do	/	/	- to give the means to	- to give oneself the means to do sth
Être à l'origine de	/	- to be the cause of - to be behind	- to be behind - to be the cause of	- to be responsible for - to lead to	- to be behind - to be the impetus for - to be the cause of - to be at the origin/root of
Être à même de	- to be in a position to do sth	- to be able to - to be in a position to	- to be in a position to - to be able to	- to be able to - to be capable of	- to be in a position to do sth - to be able to do
Être de l'ordre de	in/on/of the order of	/	- approximately - in the range of - around	- to be in the range of - to be on the order of	- to be in the region of - to be in the order of

Être en cause	- to be at issue - to be involved	- to be at stake - to be involved - to be in question	- concerning - about - to be in question - to be involved - to be at stake	- be involved - be at play	- to be in question
Être en mesure de	- to be in a position to - can	- to be in a position to	- to be capable of	- to be able to - to be in a position to	- to be able to - to be in a position to do
Être en train de	- to be doing	- to be doing	- to be + ing	- to be + ing	- to be (busy) doing sth
Être loin de	- to be far from	/	- être très loin du compte → fall far short of the mark - loin d'être bénin → far from benign	- to be away from (+ somebody) - far from + ing (if we type in "être loin de faire")	- it wouldn't take me much to - to have good mind to - never
Être sur le point de	- to be just about to do sth - to be on point of doing sth	- to be (just) about to do	- to be (just) about to do	- to be about to - to be on the verge of	- to be about to do sth - to be on the point of doing sth - to be on the verge of doing sth
Faire croire que	- (to tell) - to make sb believe (under "croire")	- to make believe - to lead sb to believe sth (under "croire")	- to persuade - to make believe - to lead sb to believe that - to delude sb into thinking that	- to have sb believe that - to think (if we type in "fait croire")	- to tell
Faire en sorte que	- to make sure that	- to see to it that	/	- to ensure	/
Faire face à	- to face - to cope with - to meet - to measure up to - to tackle	- to cope with	- to face - to meet	- to face - to deal with	- to stand opposite to - to face - to face up to - to meet
Faire la preuve de	- to show proof of	/	/	- to demonstrate - to prove	- to prove
Faire le choix de	- to choose	/	/	- to choose - to make choice for	/
Faire l'objet de	- to be the subject of - to be subjected to - to be the object of	- to be the subject of	- to be given sth - to be liable to - to be the subject of	- to be subject to	- to be liable to - to be given sth - to be subjected to - to be the victim of - to be the object/target of
Faire partie de	- to be part of - to be one of - to be among - to belong to	- to belong to - to be part of	- to be (a) part of - to belong to - to be a member of	- to be part of	- to be a member of - to be on/ in - to sit on - to belong to - to be one of - to be part of - to be among
Faire pression sur	- to be pushing or pressing against - to put pressure on - to pressurize	- to put pressure on	/	- to put pressure on	- to put pressure on
Faire preuve de	- to show	- to show	- to show	- to show - to demonstrate	- to show - to display
Jeter les bases de	- to pave the way to - to lay the foundations for	- to lay the foundations of	- to lay the foundations	- to lay the foundations of/for	- to lay the foundations of
Mettre en cause	- to implicate	- to implicate - to call into question	- to implicate - to call into question - to incriminate - to blame - to question	- to question - to call into question - to challenge	- to implicate - to call into question
Mettre en évidence	- to highlight	- to show - to highlight	- to show - to bring out - to highlight - to bring to light	- to highlight - to identify	- to display - to bring out
Mettre en oeuvre	- to implement - to display	- to implement - to operate	- to implement	- to implement	- to bring sth into play
Mettre en place	- to put in place - to put sth in/into position - to establish - to set up	- to set up	- to set up	- to put in place - to implement	- to set up - to install - to put into action - to phase in

Mettre fin à	- to install - to put an end to	- to put an end to - to end	/	- to put an end to - to end	- to put an end to - to sort out
Mettre un terme à	- to put an end to	- to put an end to	- to put an end	- to end - to stop	- to put an end to
Ouvrir la voie à	- to pave the way for	- to pave the way - to open up the way to	/	- to pave the way for/to - to open the way to	- to pave the way for - to make way for
Prendre en compte	- to take sth into account	- to take into account	/	- to take into account - to consider	- to take sth into account/consideration
Prendre la mesure de	- to access the scale of - to make an assessment of - to weigh up	/	/	- to take stock of	- to understand the full extent of
Prendre part	- to take part in - to share	- to take part in - to share	- to take part in - to share	- to take part in - to participate	- to take part in - to join in - to play a part in - to share
Remettre en cause	- to call into question - to challenge - to cast doubt on - to undermine	- to challenge	- to question - to call into question - to challenge	- to question - to call into question - to challenge	- to question - to challenge
Tenir compte de	- to take into account	- to take into account - to take notice of	- to take into account - to take notice of	- to consider - to take into account	- to take account of - to take sth into account - to take notice of

On the whole, the three OBDs often suggest several translations for a MWV and sometimes provide collocations to guide the user to choose the right context (please refer to Appendix 3 to see the table of the complete results found within the entries). However, these suggested collocations remain a quite rare phenomenon (as discussed in Section IV.4.1). Another significant issue is that some of the translations only appear in a single example-sentence (cf. Figure 3), which is not a sufficient treatment for the scope of possible translations a French MWV may cover in the English language (as discussed in Section III.2.2). As far as the *Reverso-Collins* dictionary is concerned, a major observation we made is that the suggested translations are not very detailed in comparison to some other cases we could observe in the *Oxford* and the *Larousse* dictionaries (cf. MWVs marked as “sub-entry +”): the dictionary will provide 2 translations for a MWV in the best case and rarely suggests collocations, context or examples to guide the user. The additional *Collaborative Dictionary* and the *Exemples et traductions en contexte* parts constitute therefore a valuable asset for the user. Moreover, the *Exemples et traductions en contexte* part adds a supplementary range of translations, often different from the ones suggested in the *Reverso-Collins* part and these translations in context seem to be all the more interesting. Finally, Table 5 allows us to spot a major issue in this analysis: the three OBDs hardly ever unanimously agree on the translations, which brings confusion and further questions their reliability.

IV.2.2 Classification of the suggested translations

In the perspective of spotting the possible disparities in each of the online bilingual dictionaries' treatment of the MWVs' translations, the various suggested translations of the 36 MWVs have been classified into four categories in the three following tables, namely

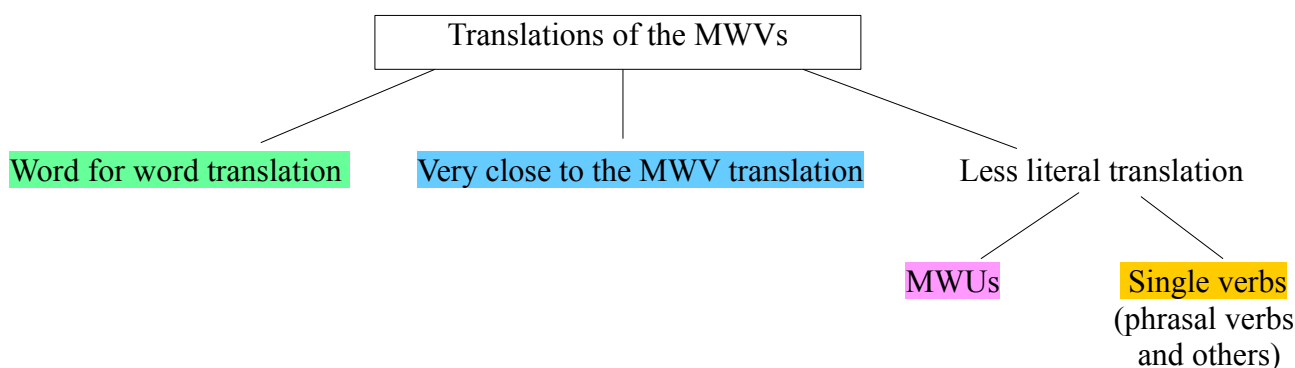


Table 6. Classification of the translations suggested in the *Oxford* dictionary

Multi-word verb	Suggested translations in the Oxford dictionary
Aller dans le sens de	des mesures qui <u>vont dans le sens de</u> notre rapport → measures which <u>are in line with</u> our report le pays <u>va dans le sens d'</u> une plus grande indépendance → the country is moving toward(s) greater independence
Avoir le droit de	<u>avoir le droit de</u> faire (la permission) → <u>to be allowed to</u> do (selon la morale, la justice) → <u>to have the right to</u> do elle <u>n'a pas le droit de</u> sortir le soir → she isn't allowed to go out at night j' <u>ai</u> quand même <u>le droit de</u> poser une question! [ironique] → I suppose I am allowed to ask a question? j' <u>ai le droit de</u> savoir → I've got a right to know elle <u>n'a pas le droit de</u> me juger/d'exiger ça de moi → she has no right to judge me/to demand that of me
Avoir l'habitude de	<u>avoir l'habitude de</u> quelque chose → <u>to be used to</u> something <u>avoir l'habitude de</u> faire → <u>to be used to doing</u>
Avoir lieu	avoir lieu → <u>to take place</u>
Avoir recours à	(<i>moyen quelconque</i>) <u>recourse</u> (<i>moyen extrême</i>) <u>resort</u> <u>avoir recours à</u> → <u>to have recourse to</u> (<i>remède, technique</i>) → <u>to resort to</u> (<i>expédient, stratagème</i>) → <u>to turn to</u> (<i>parent, ami</i>) → <u>to go to</u> (<i>agence, expert</i>)

(se) Donner les moyens de	se donner les moyens de faire → to find the means to do
Être à l'origine de	/
Être à même de	à même de (locution conjonctive) être à même de faire quelque chose → to be in a position to do something
Être de l'ordre de	de l'ordre de 30% → in the order of; of the order of (Br.); on the order of (US)
Être en cause	être en cause → (système, fait, organisme) to be at issue → (personne) to be involved
Être en mesure de	être en mesure de promettre/rembourser → to be in a position to promise/reimburse le malade n'est pas en mesure de vous parler → the patient cannot talk to you le réseau ferroviaire n'est pas en mesure de → the rail network cannot
Être en train de	En train (locution) être en train de faire → to be doing j'étais en train de dormir/lire → I was sleeping/reading
Être loin de	on est encore loin d'avoir fini → we're still far from finished, we're still a long way off finishing
Être sur le point de	être sur le point de faire → to be just about to do, to be on the point of doing j'étais sur le point de leur dire/d'abandonner/de partir → I was just about to tell them/to give up/to leave, I was on the point of telling them/giving up/leaving
Faire croire que	tu ne veux/voudrais pas me faire croire que ... → you're not telling/trying to tell me that ... faire croire que → to make somebody believe
Faire en sorte que	- fais en sorte que tout soit en ordre → make sure everything is tidy - faire en sorte qu'il comprenne → to make sure that he understands
Faire face à	faire face à (maison, chambre) to face (lieu) (personne) to face (adversaire, défi, accusation) to cope with (exigences, dépenses) to meet (demande, besoin, dette) to measure up to (concurrence) faire face à l'inflation/à la sécheresse → to tackle inflation/the drought
Faire la preuve de	- faire la preuve de → to show proof of
Faire le choix de	- faire le choix de rester → to choose to stay
Faire l'objet de	faire l'objet de - to be the subject of (enquête, recherche, critique) - to be subjected to (moquerie, surveillance) - to be the object of (convoitise, haine, lutte, poursuite)
Faire partie de	faire partie de → to be part of (groupe, processus, idéologie, pays) il fait partie de la famille → he's one of the family faire partie des premiers/derniers → to be among the first/last cela fait partie de leurs avantages → that's one of their advantages faire partie du passé → to belong to the past être or faire partie intégrante de quelque chose → to be an integral part of something
Faire pression sur	faire pression sur → (objet, os) to be pushing or pressing against

	<p>faire pression or exercer des pressions sur quelqu'un/quelque chose → to put pressure on somebody/something</p> <p>ils ont fait pression sur lui pour qu'il signe → they pressurized him into signing</p>
Faire preuve de	faire preuve de → to show
Jeter les bases de	jeter les bases d'un partenariat → to pave the way to or lay the foundations for a partnership
Mettre en cause	mettre quelqu'un/quelque chose en cause → to implicate somebody/something
Mettre en évidence	mettre en évidence [figurative] → to highlight (importance, faiblesse, utilité)
	l'enquête a permis de mettre en évidence le lien entre → the investigation highlighted the link between
Mettre en oeuvre	<p>mettre en œuvre</p> <p>→ to implement (programme, réforme)</p> <p>→ to display (grande ingéniosité)</p> <p>tout mettre en œuvre pour faire → to make every effort to do</p>
Mettre en place	<p>mettre en place</p> <p>→ to put [something] in place (<i>grillage, programme, règlement, stratégie</i>)</p> <p>→ to put [something] in or into position (<i>satellite, troupes, équipe</i>)</p> <p>→ to establish, to set up (<i>réseau, marché, régime, institution</i>)</p> <p>→ to install (<i>ligne téléphonique, canalisations</i>)</p>
Mettre fin à	mettre fin à → to put an end to
	mettre fin à ses jours → to take one's own life, to put an end to one's life
Mettre un terme à	mettre un terme à quelque chose → to put an end to something
Ouvrir la voie à	ouvrir la voie à → to pave the way for
Prendre en compte	prendre quelque chose en compte, tenir compte de quelque chose → to take something into account
Prendre la mesure de	<p>prendre la mesure de la tâche qui nous attend → to assess the scale of the task ahead</p> <p>prendre la mesure des événements politiques → to make an assessment of political events</p> <p>prendre l'exacte mesure de la concurrence → to weigh up the competition</p>
Prendre part	prendre part à → to take part in (activité, discussion, travail, conflit)
	nous prenons part à votre douleur or peine → we share your grief
Remettre en cause	<p>remettre en cause</p> <p>→ to call [something] into question, to challenge (politique, principe, droit, hiérarchie, décision)</p> <p>→ to cast doubt on (projet, efficacité, signification)</p> <p>→ to undermine (efforts, proposition, processus)</p> <p>tout est remis en cause → everything has been thrown back into doubt</p>
Tenir compte de	prendre quelque chose en compte, tenir compte de quelque chose → to take something into account

Table 7. Classification of the translations suggested in the *Larousse* dictionary

Multi-word verb	Suggested translations in the Larousse dictionary
Aller dans le sens de	(figuré) [orientation] line des mesures <u>allant dans le sens</u> d'une plus grande justice → measures directed at greater justice
Avoir le droit de	avoir le droit de faire 1. [généralement] _ to be allowed ou to have the right to do 2. [officiellement] _ to have the right ou to be entitled to do tu n'as pas le <u>droit de</u> parler ainsi ! _ you've no right to talk like that! j'ai bien le <u>droit de</u> me reposer ! _ I'm entitled to some rest, aren't I
Avoir l'habitude de	j'ai l' <u>habitude de</u> me coucher tôt → I normally ou usually go to bed early je n'ai pas l' <u>habitude d'</u> attendre ! → I am not in the habit of being kept waiting! elle <u>a l'habitude de</u> la conduite sur circuit → she's used to race track driving
Avoir lieu	avoir lieu a) [entrevue, expérience, spectacle] _ to take place b) [accident] _ to happen c) [erreur] _ to occur
Avoir recours à	[ressource] _ <u>recourse, resort</u> <u>avoir recours à</u> → [moyen] _ to resort to → [personne] _ to turn to
(se) Donner les moyens de	<u>se donner les moyens de</u> faire quelque chose → to give oneself the means to do something
Être à l'origine de	[cause première - d'un feu, d'une maladie, d'une querelle] _ <u>origin</u> <u>être à l'origine d'</u> un projet de loi [personne] → to be behind a bill ces erreurs judiciaires <u>ont été à l'origine du</u> projet de loi → these miscarriages of justice were the impetus for the bill <u>être à l'origine d'</u> une querelle → [personne] _ to be behind ou to be the cause of an argument → [malentendu] _ to be at the origin OU root of an argument
Être à même de	à même de (locution prépositionnelle) → able to, in a position to
Être de l'ordre de	(nature, sorte) nature, order <u>de l'ordre de</u> → in the region OU order of
Être en cause	en cause (locution adjectivale) <u>être en cause</u> [talent] → to be in question
Être en mesure de	<u>être en mesure de</u> → to be able OU in a position to
Être en train de	en train de (locution prépositionnelle) <u>être en train de</u> faire quelque chose → to be (busy) doing something il <u>est</u> toujours <u>en train de</u> taquiner sa sœur → he's always teasing his sister l'opinion publique <u>est en train d'</u> évoluer → public opinion is changing

Être loin de	Loin de (locution prépositionnelle) je <u>ne suis pas loin de</u> leur dire le fond de ma pensée → it wouldn't take me much to tell them what I think, I have a good mind to tell them what I really think j' <u>étais loin de</u> me douter que... → I never imagined...
Être sur le point de	sur le point de (locution prépositionnelle) <u>être sur le point de</u> faire quelque chose → to be about to do ou on the point of doing ou on the verge of doing something j' <u>étais sur le point de</u> partir → I was about to ou going to leave <u>sur le point de</u> pleurer → on the verge of tears ou of crying
Faire croire que	- tu <u>ne me feras pas croire que</u> ... → I refuse to believe that ... - on lui a <u>fait croire que</u> la réunion était annulée → they told him that the meeting had been cancelled - elle voulait <u>faire croire à</u> un accident → she wanted it to look like an accident
Faire en sorte que	/ (fais en sorte d'arriver à l'heure → try to be there on time)
Faire face à	faire face à (sens propre) → to stand opposite to , to face [danger] → to face up to [obligations, dépense] → to meet
Faire la preuve de	mon avocat <i>fera la preuve de</i> mon innocence → my lawyer will prove that I'm innocent, my lawyer will prove my innocence
Faire le choix de	/
Faire l'objet de	vous pouvez faire l'objet de poursuites → you're liable to precaution faire ou être l'objet de/ faire ou être l'objet de soins particuliers → to receive ou to be given special care faire l'objet d'une fouille corporelle → to be subjected to a body search faire l'objet d'attaques répétées → to be the victim of repeated attacks l'ancien ministre fait actuellement l'objet d'une enquête → the former minister is currently being investigated faire l'objet de controverses → to be a controversial subject faire l'objet de vives critiques → to be the object ou target of sharp criticism
Faire partie de	faire partie de 1. [comité] → to be a member of , to be on , to sit on 2. [club, communauté] → to be a member of , to belong to 3. [équipe] → to belong to , to be one of , to be in 4. [licenciés] → to be among , to be one of 5. [métier, inconvénients, risques] → to be part of il fait presque partie de la famille → he's almost one of the family faire partie intégrante de → to be an integral part of
Faire pression sur	faire pression sur quelqu'un → to put pressure on somebody
Faire preuve de	faire preuve de jugement → to show sound OU good judgement

	faire preuve d'un grand sang froid → to show OU to display great presence of mind.
Jeter les bases de	jeter les fondements d'une loi/politique → to lay the foundations of a law/policy
Mettre en cause	mettre quelqu'un en cause → to implicate somebody mettre quelque chose en cause → to call something into question
Mettre en évidence	mettre en évidence 1. [exposer] to display 2. [détail, talent] to bring out
Mettre en oeuvre	mettre quelque chose en œuvre → to bring something into play mettre tout en œuvre pour que → to do everything in one's power to ensure that nous avons mis tous les moyens en œuvre pour juguler l'incendie → we did everything we could to bring the fire under control elle a mis tout en œuvre pour être sélectionnée → she pulled out all the stops in order to get selected
Mettre en place	mettre en place 1. [équipement] to set up (separable), to install 2. [plan] to set up (separable), to put into action 3. [réseau] to set up (separable) la méthode sera mise en place progressivement _ the method will be phased in (gradually)
Mettre fin à	[entry « tenir »] il ne tient qu'à toi de mettre fin à ce désordre _ it's entirely up to you to sort out this shambles [entry « attendre »] le pays attend encore l'homme qui sera capable de mettre fin à la guerre civile _ the country is still waiting for the man who will be able to put an end to the civil war [entry « fin »] mettre fin à quelque chose _ to put an end to something mettre fin à ses jours _ to put an end to one's life, to take one's own life
Mettre un terme à	mettre un terme à quelque chose _ to put an end to something
Ouvrir la voie à	ouvrir la voie à quelqu'un/quelque chose _ to pave the way for somebody/something, to make way for somebody/something
Prendre en compte	prendre quelque chose en compte [prendre en considération] _ to take something into account ou consideration
Prendre la mesure de	prendre la (juste) mesure de quelque chose _ to understand the full extent of something
Prendre part	prendre part à 1. [discussion, compétition, manifestation] _ to take part in 2. [cérémonie, projet] _ to join in , to play a part in 3. [attentat] _ to take part in , to play a part in prendre part à la joie/peine de quelqu'un _ to share (in) somebody's joy/sorrow
Remettre en cause	remettre en cause [principe] _ to question , to challenge son départ remet tout en cause _ her departure reopens the whole question OU debate
Tenir compte de	tenir compte de quelque chose _ to take account of something, to take something into account ne tenir aucun compte de quelque chose _ to disregard something elle n'a pas tenu compte de mes conseils _ she took no notice of OU ignored my advice

Table 8. Classification of the translations suggested in the *Reverso-Collins* dictionary

Multi-word verb	Suggested translations in the Reverso-Collins dictionary
Aller dans le sens de	/
Avoir le droit de	avoir le droit de → to be allowed to
Avoir l'habitude de	avoir l'habitude de faire → to be in the habit of doing avoir l'habitude de faire qch → to be used to doing sth
Avoir lieu	avoir lieu → to take place
Avoir recours à	avoir recours à → to resort to
(se) Donner les moyens de	/
Être à l'origine de	être à l'origine de - to be behind - to be the cause of
Être à même de	être à même de → to be able to être à même de faire (= en mesure) → to be in a position to do , to be able to do
Être de l'ordre de	/
Être en cause	<u>être en cause</u> → [intérêts] to be at stake → [personne] to be involved → [qualité] to be in question
Être en mesure de	être en mesure de → to be in a position to
Être en train de	être en train de faire qch → to be doing sth
Être loin de	/
Être sur le point de	être sur le point de faire → to be about to do sth
Faire croire que	faire croire que → make believe faire croire qch à qn → lead sb to believe sth ; delude sb into thinking sth ; make sb believe that faire croire → persuade
Faire en sorte que	- faire en sorte que → to see to it that
Faire face à	- faire face à → to cope with
Faire la preuve de	/
Faire le choix de	/
Faire l'objet de	- être l'objet de discussions, faire l'objet de discussions → to be the subject of discussion
Faire partie de	faire partie de → [personne] to belong to → [chose] to be part of
Faire pression sur	faire pression sur → to put pressure on
Faire preuve de	faire preuve de → to show
Jeter les bases de	Jeter les bases de → to lay the foundations of
Mettre en cause	mettre en cause → [personne] to implicate

	→ [+qualité de qch, honnêteté de qn] to call into question
Mettre en évidence	mettre en évidence (=rendre apparent) [+corrélation, phénomène] to show (=souligner) to highlight (=fait indiscutable) obvious fact
Mettre en oeuvre	mettre en oeuvre → implement (vt.) ; operate (vt.)
Mettre en place	mettre en place → to set up
Mettre fin à	mettre fin à → to put an end to
Mettre un terme à	mettre un terme à → to put an end to
Ouvrir la voie à	ouvrir la voie → pave the way , open up the way
Prendre en compte	prendre en compte → take into account
Prendre la mesure de	/
Prendre part	prendre part à - [+débat] to take part in - [+soucis, douleur de qn] to share Il va prendre part à la réunion. → He's going to take part in the meeting.
Remettre en cause	remettre en cause → to challenge , to call into question
Tenir compte de	tenir compte de [+fait, circonstances] → to take into account [+conseils] → to take notice of Ils ont tenu compte de mon expérience. → They took my experience into account Il n'a pas tenu compte de mes conseils. → He took no notice of my advice

Figure 32. Classification of the suggested translations (in %)

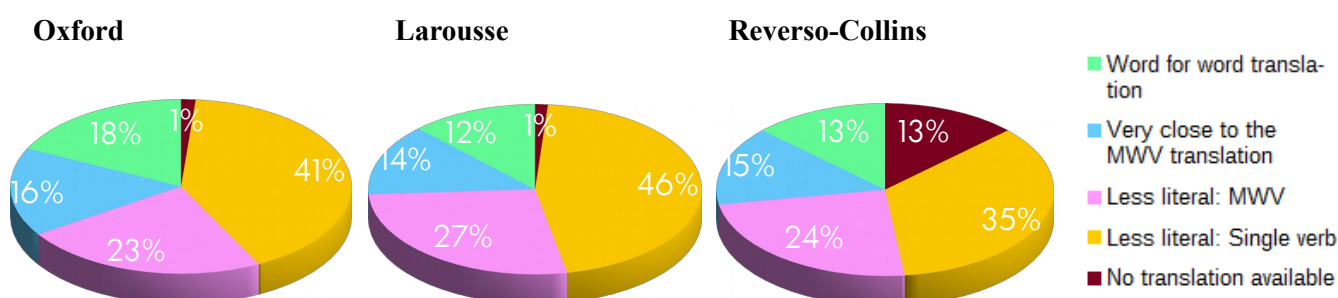


Figure 32 displays three diagrams illustrating the results of the classification of the translations for each of the OBDs. As revealed by Tables 6, 7, 8 and Figure 32, the three OBDs seem to suggest the same kind of translations for the MWVs, with an average of 14,3% of “word for word” translations,

15% of “very close to the MWV” translations, 24,6% of “less literal-MWV” translations and 40,6% of “less literal-single verb” translations. If these very similar percentages seem to suggest that the three dictionaries follow the same path and may thus be right in their translations, the still significant percentages of “word for word” and “very close to the French MWV” translations encourage a further development of the analysis. After having investigated the *LABEL France* and the *British National Corpus*, a similar research will be conducted in order to determine whether corpus data concur with the results found for the OBDs' suggested translations.

IV.3 ASSESSMENT OF THE SUGGESTED TRANSLATIONS AGAINST CORPUS DATA (LABEL FRANCE)

As previously mentioned in the present work, corpora have been proven to be a key asset in the compilation of bilingual dictionaries and online tools should abide by the same rules. After having had an insight into the panel of the various translations that are suggested in the online bilingual dictionaries, we will in this section assess these suggestions through the use of corpus data. Since the French language does unfortunately not benefit from such a large corpus as, for instance, the *British National Corpus* and the *Corpus of Contemporary American English* for the English language, the *Label France* unidirectional corpus will be looked into. This translation corpus is made up of magazine articles (including transcribed interviews) in French translated into English that appeared in *Label France*, a magazine published by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Including a variety of topics, such as politics, economics, culture, technology and tourism, the corpus comprises c. 800,000 words in each language. The corpus was aligned automatically at sentence level with *Alinea* (a software dedicated to bilingual aligning and concordancing, created by Olivier Kraif¹⁷) and can be read in the multilingual concordancer *ParaConc* (software, developed by Michael Barlow¹⁸), making of this corpus “an ideal testbed to study French-English translation shifts and thereby revisit existing descriptions in bilingual dictionaries”.¹⁹ Since we are aware of the limited size of this corpus, emphasis must be laid on the fact that the results it will deliver are consequently limited and will probably not show all the possible translations that are suggested in the investigated dictionaries. The corpus has been analyzed adopting the following methodology: chunks corresponding to the heart of each of the 36 MWVs have been queried in the software

17 Alinea, URL: http://olivier.kraif.u-grenoble3.fr/?option=com_content&task=view&id=27&Itemid=43, Accessed on 5th August 2017.

18 ParaConc, URL: <http://paraconc.com/>, Accessed on 5th August 2017.

19 CECL – LABEL France, URL: <https://uclouvain.be/en/research-institutes/ilc/cecl/label-france.html>, Accessed on 25th May 2017.

*WordSmithTool*²⁰ using the 'Concord' option. The listed results have then been thoroughly perused (using the sorting by L1 option when possible) to spot all the examples from the *LABEL France* corpus containing the MWV. The English part of the corpus has subsequently been perused to find the corresponding translations. Some of the examples for each of the MWVs have been selected to illustrate some of the translations found in the corpus. Please refer to Appendix 6 to read the complete lists of results extracted from the analysis of the corpus. For the sake of clarity, the translations found within the corpus are already compared to the translations found within the three investigated OBDs in each of the following tables: a translation found within the corpus or an OBD is marked with a ✓; conversely, a translation that is not found within one of the four tools is marked with a cross.

- **Avoir lieu**

Tool \ Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To take place	✓	46	✓	✓	✓
To happen	×	0	×	×	✓
To occur	✓	2	×	×	✓
To be held	✓	10	×	×	×

Table 9. Suggested translations of “avoir lieu” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

The combination of the results found within the four tools provides a list of 4 different translations for the French MWV “avoir lieu”. The corpus allows to attest two of the translations suggested in the dictionaries, i.e. the frequent verb *to take place* and *to occur*. Interestingly, the corpus suggests a new translation that does not appear in the surveyed OBDs, namely *to be held*. Since the LABEL France provides us with a significant amount of occurrences for some of the translations, we are able to determine in which kind of context each of them occurs. We thereby understand that the expression *to be held* usually collocates with *exhibition* or massive events such as World Days or the Olympic Games (cf. Examples 1 and 2). *Elections, seminars* as well as *sales* can also *be held*. *To take place* appears in many different contexts and seems to be the “default translation” of “avoir lieu”, whereas the verb *to occur* seems to collocate with more abstract concepts (cf. Example 4).

- (1) FR Elle prélude aux travaux de rénovation de l’Orangerie, qui débiteront dès la clôture de l’exposition pour s’achever fin 2001, et elle ne pouvait **avoir lieu** que dans ce

20 WordSmithTools, URL: <http://www.lexically.net/wordsmith/>, Accessed on 25th May 2017.

musée , puisque les huit grands panneaux composant la décoration ne peuvent être déplacés et qu'eux seuls permettent de présenter dans sa logique le cycle des Nymphéas, dont ils marquent l'aboutissement .

- EN It precedes the renovation work on the Orangerie, scheduled to commence right after the exhibition closes and be completed at the end of 2001. An exhibition such as this could only **have been held** at such a venue: indeed, the eight large panels that make up the decoration cannot be moved and only they, as its culmination, can showcase the cycle of the Water Lilies in all its logic.
- (2) FR Le 10 octobre de chaque année **a lieu** une Journée mondiale sur ce thème et la France vient de parrainer un troisième congrès international organisé par l'association "Ensemble contre la peine de mort" (février 2006).
- EN A World Day **is held** on this theme on 10 October every year and France has just supported a third international congress organised by the association "Together Against the Death Penalty" (February 2006).
- (3) FR C'est l'une des manifestations d'art contemporain les plus courues au monde, qui **a lieu** tous les cinq ans depuis 1955, dans la ville de Kassel en Allemagne.
- EN This is one of the world's most well - known contemporary art events, which **has taken place** every five years since 1955, in the town of Kassel, Germany.
- (4) FR Ces inversions de logique peuvent **avoir lieu** dans la partie même.
- EN These reversals of logic can sometimes **occur** during the match itself.

• Être à l'origine de

Tool	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To be behind	✓	12	x	✓	✓
To be the cause of	✓	6	x	✓	✓
To be the impetus for	x	0	x	x	✓
To be at the root of	✓	1	x	x	✓
To be at the origin of	x	0	x	x	✓
To provide	✓	1	x	x	x
To be the source of	✓	3	x	x	x

Table 10. Suggested translations of “être à l'origine de” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

Regarding the translation of the MWV “être à l'origine de”, three of the tools seem to agree on the translation *to be behind* and *to be the cause of*, both found within the corpus. The LABEL France also adds two other possible translations, i.e. *to provide* and *to be the source of*, providing a list of 7 possible translations. The verb *to be behind* stands out in terms of occurrences in comparison to the other suggestions and usually occurs with people, groups of people or institutions who/which have created and supported something (cf. Examples 5 and 6). In the results provided by the corpus, we

can observe that *to be the cause of* tends to occur in negative semantic fields, carrying the meaning of triggering bad things such as *floods, suicides, attacks, problems*, etc (cf. Example 7). Both these results found for *to be behind* and *to be the cause of* correspond with the collocations suggested in the *Larousse* dictionary²¹. Although it is highly infrequent in the LABEL France, the only example displayed by the corpus for the expression *to be at the root of* collocates with a negative element (i.e. *crisis*) and consequently also matches the suggestion of the *Larousse* dictionary. Finally, according to the corpus, *to be the source of* may collocate either with positive elements (such as *to be the source of a culture*) or else with rather negative ones (e.g. *to be the source of abuses*).

- (5) FR Pierre Potier, de l’Institut de chimie des substances naturelles de Gif-sur-Yvette (dans la banlieue parisienne), **est** cependant **à l’origine de** deux des plus puissants produits anticancéreux actuels : la navelbine et le taxotère.
EN Nonetheless, Pierre Potier, of the Institut de chimie des substances naturelles [Institute of chemistry of natural substances] in Gif - sur - Yvette (in the suburbs of Paris), **is behind** one of the two currently most effective anti-cancer treatments: Navelbine and Taxotere.
- (6) FR La France **est à l’origine du** projet de contribution internationale de solidarité sur les billets d’avion afin de lutter contre les grandes pandémies.
EN France **is behind** the scheme for an international solidarity tax on plane tickets, designed to combat major pandemics.
- (7) FR Dernier grand fleuve encore sauvage d’Europe occidentale, la Loire **est à l’origine d’**inondations périodiques.
EN The last untamed major river in Western Europe, the Loire **is the cause of** periodic floods.
- (8) FR Le manque de concertation **est à l’origine de** la crise du multilatéral.
EN The lack of dialogue **is at the root of** the multilateral crisis.

• **Être en train de**

Tool Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To be doing	✓	17	✓	✓	✓
To be in the process of	✓	21	x	x	x
To become + past participle	✓	2	x	x	x
To be being + past participle	✓	6	x	x	x

Table 11. Suggested translations of “être en train de” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

21 Please refer to Table 7.

As far as the translation of the French MWV “être en train de” is concerned, the four tools unsurprisingly unanimously agree on the expression *to be doing*, which occurs several times within the corpus. The LABEL France however suggests 3 additional translations that cannot be found within the OBDs, among which the surprising and interesting multi-word verb *to be in the process of*. The high number of occurrences of this expression within the corpus suggests that it perhaps is a common translation in the newspaper genre, adding an idea of “process” in the expression “être en train de”. The context in which all of these translations occur in the corpus does not allow us to observe any broad tendencies and seem all to be synonymous.

- (9) FR Leur situation géographique stratégique fait d’elles des passerelles entre la France métropolitaine et des aires culturelles appelées à jouer des rôles de plus en plus significatifs dans le monde multipolaire qui **est en train d’**émerger .
- EN Their strategic geographical location makes them bridges between Metropolitan France and cultural areas that are called upon to play increasingly significant roles in the multipolar world that **is emerging**.
- (10) FR Tout comme les Latino-Américains, les Indo-Anglais ou les Caribéens, les Africains **sont en train de** transformer profondément les langues impériales européennes en y introduisant des registres de langage et de sensibilité qui n’existaient pas auparavant.
- EN In exactly the same way as Latin Americans, Anglo-Indians and West Indians, Africans **are in the process of** profoundly transforming the imperialist European languages by introducing registers of language and sensibility which did not exist before.
- (11) FR Mais de nouvelles techniques **sont en train de** se développer : on sait qu’un petit morceau d’ovaire recèle des milliers de cellules (ovocytes) qui peuvent, in vitro, évoluer en cent à deux cents ovules.
- EN But new techniques **are being developed**: we know that a small piece of ovary contains thousands of cells (oocytes) which can, in vitro, develop into one to two hundred eggs.
- (12) FR Ce type de programmes, locomotives de la télévision commerciale, **est en train de** s’imposer dans le paysage audiovisuel français.
- EN This sort of programme, driving forces behind commercial television, **is becoming established** on the French media landscape.

• Être loin de

Tool Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To be far from	✓	27	✓	x	x
To be a long way off	x	0	✓	x	x
To be a long way from	✓	8	x	x	x

Table 12. Suggested translations of “être loin de” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

The combination of the translations suggested in the *Oxford* dictionary and in the corpus generates a list of 3 possible translations for “être loin de”. If these literal word-for-word translations do not seem to fit the purpose at first sight, the corpus agrees with the dictionary on one of them, namely *to be far from*. The various examples found within the LABEL France also give evidence that these suggestions match the figurative meaning of “être loin de” we are investigating. The analysis of the contexts in which the two attested translations occur has however not revealed any difference between the two of them and they may thus be used interchangeably. It must finally be underlined that the *Larousse* dictionary additionally suggests two examples in context which embody a more figurative meaning:

- je ne suis pas loin de leur dire le fond de ma pensée → il wouldn't take me much to tell them what I think / I have good mind to tell them what I think.
- J'étais loin de me douter que... → I never imagined...

But these suggestions have not been found within the corpus. They are however part of the Spoken register, which is only represented in the corpus in some interviews, which may be a reason why.

- (13) FR Monté pour la première fois dans un petit théâtre de poche à Paris, En attendant Godot, qui fit connaître Beckett, **fut loin d’être** un succès immédiat.
EN Performed for the first time in a tiny theatre in Paris, Waiting for Godot, which made Beckett’s name, **was far from** an instant hit.
- (14) FR Et par son style déjà, Laurence Parisot affiche sa différence : tee-shirt et pantalon, cheveux courts, pas de maquillage, on **est loin du** "complet - cravate - cigare" du patron.
EN and Laurence Parisot is already flaunting her difference by her style: T-shirt and trousers, short hair, no make-up, we **are a long way from** the traditional "suit, tie and cigar" associated with the boss.

• **Faire l'objet de**

Tool	Corpus		OBD		
	Translation	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins
To be the subject of	✓	15	✓	✓	✗
To be subjected to	✓	3	✓	✗	✓
To be the object of	✓	7	✓	✗	✓
To be liable to	✗	0	✗	✗	✓
To be the target of	✗	0	✗	✗	✓
To be the victim of	✗	0	✗	✗	✓
To be being + past	✗	0	✗	✗	✓

participle					
To suffer from	✓	1	x	x	x
To undergo	✓	2	x	x	x
No literal translation	✓	21	x	x	x

Table 13. Suggested translations of “faire l’objet de” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

With respect to the translation of the MWV “faire l’objet de”, 10 suggestions have been found combining the results generated by the four tools. Three of the tools seem to agree on the translation *to be the subject of* (which is the most frequent in the corpus) as well as on *to be subjected to* and *to be the object of*, although these are not highly frequent in the LABEL France (cf. Examples 15-16-17). After a further analysis of the various contexts in which these suggestions occur, we observed that *to be the subject of* usually collocates with terms such as *report*, *studies*, *negotiations* and *exhibition*, which only partly attests the collocations suggested in the *Oxford* dictionary²². Given the low number of occurrences for the other translations within the corpus, we could not draw conclusions as regards their collocations. In addition, the corpus displays two new translations: *to suffer from* and *to undergo*, both related to a negative collocational environment (cf. Examples 18 and 19). The suggestions *to be liable to*, *to be the target of*, *to be the victim of* and the expression *to be being + past participle* are only found within the *Larousse* dictionary and ought consequently to be given more attention and a deeper investigation in order to determine whether they are satisfactory translations for the French MWV “faire l’objet de”. More specifically, the main striking result of the conducted corpus analysis is the high frequency of occurrences where the MWV “faire l’objet de” actually has no literal translation in the English language. This French multi-word expression is usually translated with a common verb with a passive construction (cf. Examples 20 and 21).

- (15) FR En revanche, les questions de la hausse des prix , des inégalités, de la sécurité **font l’objet de** fortes attentes et de vrais clivages entre gauche et droite.
- EN Conversely, the issues of price rises, inequality and security **are the subject of** strong expectations and a real division between left and right.
- (16) FR Avec le décryptage du génome - qui tend à imposer la génétique comme le principal mode de connaissance et de compréhension de l’être humain - , avec les progrès du dépistage prénatal, de la procréation artificielle et des manipulations génétiques, avec le développement des capacités de réparation du corps humain, voire de reproduction d’organes et de tissus, le champ de ce qui échappait,

²² Please refer to Table 6.

potentiellement, à la volonté humaine se réduit considérablement et ce qui était autrefois imposé par la nature, ou le hasard, **fait** aujourd’hui **l’objet de** choix éthiques difficiles.

- EN With the decoding of the human genome - which is tending to establish genetics as the principal means of knowing and understanding the human being -with advances in prenatal screening, artificial procreation and genetic engineering, with the development of the ability to repair the human body, and indeed the reproduction of organs and tissues, potentially the area beyond man’s control is considerably reduced and what was once dictated by nature, or chance, **is now the object of** difficult ethical choices.
- (17) FR Il faut impérativement posséder moins de 2 000 habitants, deux périmètres, sites ou bâtiments inscrits ou classés, et présenter l’accord unanime du conseil municipal, avant de **faire l’objet d’**une expertise in situ et de répondre aux vingt-sept critères exigés par la commission qualité.
- EN The town must also have less than 2,000 inhabitants, two registered or listed areas, sites or buildings, and have the unanimous agreement of the municipal council, before **being subjected to** an on-site inspection and meeting the twenty-seven criteria demanded by the quality committee.
- (18) FR Jusque-là régulièrement toiletté, il **a fait l’objet d’**une refonte d’envergure visant à simplifier la navigation de l’internaute grâce à l’adoption d’un outil technique unique.
- EN Until now amended regularly, it **has now undergone** a major overhaul aimed at simplifying browsing for surfers with the adoption of a unique technical tool.
- (19) FR En matière de travail, les Français **font l’objet de** nombreux préjugés.
- EN When it comes to work, the French **suffer from** several preconceptions.
- (20) FR Aujourd’hui, le lieu **a fait l’objet d’**un aménagement paysager et une promenade à ciel ouvert y est proposée.
- EN Today, the site **has been landscaped** and an open-air walk laid out.
- (21) FR Lancée après la guerre et terminée en 1964, la première édition du dictionnaire alphabétique et analogique de la langue française **a fait l’objet de** nombreuses mises à jour, jusqu’à la dernière, en novembre 2001.
- EN Launched after the war and completed in 1964, the first edition of this dictionary and thesaurus of the French language **has been updated** many times, including this most recent edition, published in November 2001.

• **Faire partie de**

Tool Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To be part of	✓	36	✓	✓	✓
To be one of	✓	20	✓	x	✓
To be among	✓	1	✓	x	✓
To belong to	✓	3	✓	✓	✓
To be a member of	x	0	x	x	✓
To be on	x	0	x	x	✓
To sit on	x	0	x	x	✓

To be in	x	0	x	x	✓
To join	✓	2	x	x	x

Table 14. Suggested translations of “faire partie de” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

In total, 9 translations are suggested for the French MWV “faire partie de” but only 4 out of the 8 translations found in the OBDs are attested by the corpus analysis, namely *to be part of*, *to be one of*, *to belong to* and *to be among*, though *to be among* and *to belong to* are not very frequent in LABEL France. Furthermore, the four tools only unanimously agree on two of them, i.e. *to be part of* and *to belong to*. *To be part of* and *to be one of* are the two most frequent translations found within the corpus (cf. Examples 22 and 23). A deeper analysis of the collocational environment of these two verbs revealed that *to be part of* collocates with words such as *job*, *culture*, *life*, *group*, and *to be one of* with groups of things or people as well as superlatives and the word *first*, which only poorly matches the collocations suggested in the *Oxford* and *Larousse* dictionaries²³. Finally, the corpus suggests the additional translation *to join* for expressions such as *to join a club* or *a network* (cf. Example 26).

- (22) FR Regardez les manifestations culturelles qui se déroulent un peu partout en Europe, où tout le monde se rencontre et se reconnaît non pas nécessairement comme Européen mais comme **faisant partie d**'une culture qui se trouve être européenne.
- EN Look at the cultural events taking place almost everywhere in Europe, where everyone meets together and recognizes themselves not necessarily as European but as **being part of** a culture that happens to be European.
- (23) FR La Touche étoile **fait partie des** plus grands succès du début 2006.
- EN La Touche étoile **was one of** the biggest successes of early 2006.
- (24) FR "Ils **font partie du** monde des puissants, et surtout des nantis", peut-on lire dans une enquête approfondie réalisée par trois professeurs de science politique.
- EN "They **belong to** the world of the powerful, and above all of the affluent", we read in an in-depth survey conducted by three political science teachers.
- (25) FR Les films qu'elle coproduit **font souvent partie des** palmarès des festivals internationaux (comme *La Pianiste*, de Jane Campion, ou *Dancer in the Dark*, de Lars von Trier).
- EN The films it co-produces **are often among the** award winners at international festivals (like *La Pianiste* [The Pianist] by Jane Campion and *Dancer in the Dark*, by Lars von Trier).
- (26) FR En 1985, 12 universités scientifiques et technologiques **faisaient déjà partie du** réseau «Time», qui regroupe les établissements européens proposant des programmes de double diplôme.
- EN In 1985, 12 scientific and technological universities **joined** the «Time» network, which brings together European establishments offering dual degree programmes.

23 Please refer to Tables 6 and 7.

• **Mettre en oeuvre**

Tool Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To implement	✓	32	✓	✓	✗
To display	✗	0	✓	✗	✗
To operate	✗	0	✗	✓	✗
To bring into play	✗	0	✗	✗	✓
To set up	✓	3	✗	✗	✗
To use	✓	4	✗	✗	✗

Table 15. Suggested translations of “mettre en oeuvre” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

Out of the four translations suggested by the OBDs, only one is attested by the corpus, namely *to implement* (cf. Example 27). The survey of the various examples displaying this verbs allowed us to observe that *to implement* usually collocates with words such as *policy*, *programme* and *plan*, which confirms the collocations suggested in the *Oxford* dictionary²⁴. The corpus also suggests two additional translations to the list, i.e. *to set up* and *to use*, both less frequent (cf. Examples 28 and 29). With regard to the French expression “tout mettre en oeuvre pour”, the analysis reveals again disparities among the tools:

→ *LABEL France*: to do everything that is possible to, to do everything we can to, everything should/must be done to

→ *Oxford*: to make every effort to do sth

→ *Larousse*: to do everything in one's power to, to pull out all the stops in order to

Finally, it must be highlighted that the corpus also provides 16 supplementary results among which isolated translations, such as *to apply*, *to run*, *to establish*, *to carry out*, *to adopt*, *to provide*, *to introduce*, *to come on stream* or else *to initiate*, which shows the wide range of possibilities of translation there could be for “mettre en oeuvre” and further confirms the incomplete nature of the OBDs.

(27) FR La Banque centrale européenne définit et **met en oeuvre** la politique économique et monétaire de l’Union.

EN The ECB defines and **implements** the Union’s economic and monetary policy.

(28) FR Après 1945, l’Europe **a été mise en oeuvre** par des hommes politiques, par des économistes, mais les écrivains ont été étrangement absents de cette construction,

²⁴ Please refer to Table 6.

sans doute étaient-ils mobilisés à l'époque par la décolonisation, par les affrontements idéologiques, mais on peut regretter cette défaillance, ce silence assourdissant sur une question qui n'en finit pourtant pas de nous engager de nos jours.

EN After 1945, Europe **was set up** by politicians, by economists, but writers have been strangely absent from this construction project, probably because at the time they were mobilised by decolonisation, by ideological confrontations, but we can regret this failure, this deafening silence on a question that nonetheless still involves us today.

(29) FR Très attaché à promouvoir des applications industrielles cohérentes avec les contraintes du développement durable, Yves Chauvin illustre parfaitement comment une science fondamentale peut **être mise en œuvre** au bénéfice de l'homme, de la société et de l'environnement.

EN Deeply committed to promoting industrial applications consistent with the constraints of sustainable development, Yves Chauvin provides a perfect demonstration of how basic science can **be used** to benefit people, society and the environment.

• **Mettre en place**

Tool Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To put in place	✓	21	✓	x	x
To put in/into position	x	0	✓	x	x
To establish	✓	11	✓	x	x
To set up	✓	69	✓	✓	✓
To install	x	0	✓	x	✓
To put into action	x	0	x	x	✓
To be phased in (gradually)	x	0	x	x	✓
To introduce	✓	18	x	x	x
To implement	✓	4	x	x	x
To mobilize	✓	2	x	x	x
To provide	✓	4	x	x	x
To create	✓	3	x	x	x

Table 16. Suggested translations of “mettre en place” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

Altogether, the three OBDs suggest 7 translations for the French MWV “mettre en place”, among which only three appear in the LABEL France corpus, namely *to set up*, *to put in place* and *to establish* (cf. Examples 30-31-32). The four tools nonetheless only unanimously agree on one single translation, i.e. *to set up*. A further survey of the collocational environment of the translations displayed within the corpus has allowed us to determine that *to set up* seems to collocate with words

such as *measure, scheme, network, partnership, programme, system* and *service* whereas words such as *law/legislation, system, measure* and *policy* usually happen in the context of *to introduce*. *To establish* seems to often collocate with *cooperation* or something related to an *institution* and *to put in place* with *plan, mechanisms, team* or *processes*. All these results only partially match the collocations suggested in the *Oxford* and the *Larousse* dictionaries²⁵. Emphasis must also be laid on the fact that the verb “to put in place” frequently occurs in the corpus, whereas it is not dealt with adequately within the OBDs, which leads to think that this multi-word verb could probably belong exclusively to the news genre. Finally, the analysis of the LABEL France corpus provides 5 additional possible translations to the list, i.e. *to introduce, to implement, to provide, to create* and *to mobilize*, further accentuating the lacks in coverage in the OBDs (cf. Examples 33-34-35-36-37).

- (30) FR Dans la foulée de la DUDH, des organisations internationales tant universelles que régionales ont accompli une œuvre remarquable, d’une part en codifiant les droits de l’Homme dans des traités ou conventions et, d’autre part **en mettant en place** des mécanismes de contrôle destinés à assurer le respect effectif de ces droits.
- EN In the wake of the UDHR, both world and regional international organisations have been responsible for some remarkable achievements, on the one hand codifying human rights in treaties and conventions and, on the other, **putting in place** control mechanisms designed to secure effective respect of these rights.
- (31) FR Ils **mettent en place** un système original de protection des sites menacés, en partenariat avec les propriétaires privés et publics, et sur la base des actions menées par l’Etat.
- EN They **set up** a unique system for protecting threatened sites, in partnership with private and public owners, based on actions taken by the State.
- (32) FR En 1992, une coopération importante **a été mise en place** entre cet établissement et un consortium de plus de 30 universités françaises.
- EN In 1992, a major cooperation scheme **was established** between this institution and a consortium of over 30 French universities.
- (33) FR Le gouvernement **a mis en place** un dispositif dédié à la sauvegarde du littoral et du milieu marin.
- EN The government **has introduced** a measure designed to safeguard the shoreline and the marine environment.
- (34) FR Le RTE Transports s’appuie enfin sur de grands programmes industriels, destinés à **mettre en place** des systèmes de radionavigation par satellite (GALILEO, voir article en page 30), d’interopérabilité ferroviaire (ERTMS) et de modernisation de la gestion du trafic aérien (SESAR).
- EN Lastly, Transport TEN are based on major industrial programmes, intended to **implement** satellite navigation systems (Galileo, see article, page 30), an interoperable rail service (European Rail Traffic Management System - ERTMS) and the modernisation of air traffic control (Single European Sky ATM Research - SESAR).

25 Please refer to Tables 6 and 7.

- (35) FR Quels moyens la France **met-elle en place** pour assurer une gestion durable des eaux marines ?
EN What resources **is** France **mobilising** to ensure a sustainable management of maritime waters?
- (36) FR Les organisateurs de salons **mettent en place** un accompagnement de l'exposant plus important , ils les aident à dégager un véritable retour sur investissement et les forment au métier d'exposant».
EN The exhibition organisers **are providing** greater support for the exhibitor and helping them to release a real return on investment and training them in the job of exhibitor".
- (37) FR Lancé au Sommet des chefs d'Etats de la Francophonie à Hanoi, au Vietnam, en 1997, le Campus virtuel, **mis en place** par l'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie, permet aux universités des pays du Sud de se développer en réseau, et à la Francophonie d'accroître sa présence sur internet.
EN Launched at the Summit of the Heads of State of the French-speaking world in Hanoi, Vietnam, in 1997, the Virtual Campus **created** by the University Agency of the French-speaking world enables the universities of the countries of the South to form a network and the French-speaking world to increase its presence on the Internet.

• **Prendre en compte**

Tool \ Translation	Corpus		OBD		
	LABEL France	Occurrences	Oxford	Reverso-Collins	Larousse
To take sth into account	✓	12	✓	✓	✓
To take sth into consideration	✓	1	x	x	✓
To take account of	✓	12	x	x	x
To include	✓	4	x	x	x
To embrace	✓	1	x	x	x

Table 17. Suggested translations of “prendre en compte” in the LABEL France corpus and the three OBDs.

The combination of the results found in the four tools provides a list of 5 possible translations for the French MWV “prendre en compte”, among which only two appear in the OBDs and three are additionally suggested by the corpus. The most frequent translations occurring in the LABEL France corpus are *to take into account* – on which the tools unanimously agree – and *to take account of* (cf. Examples 38-39). The subsequent analysis of the collocational environment of these verbs has not revealed any striking differences and both of them may consequently be used interchangeably. The translations *to take into consideration* and *to embrace* remain valuable possibilities, though not very frequent (cf. Examples 40-41). The LABEL France corpus finally suggests the verb *to include*, which could be an interesting equivalent for “prendre en compte” in

the English language (cf. Example 42).

- (38) FR On a eu davantage recours aux archives privées, aux journaux intimes, aux autobiographies, parce que les femmes ne sont pas, pendant longtemps, **prises en compte** dans le domaine public.
- EN We have made more use of private archives, personal diaries and autobiographies, because women were not, over a long period, **taken into account** in the public sphere.
- (39) FR Mais la diversité des élèves n'est pas seulement sociale, comme l'a montré la psychologie, qui invite à **prendre** également **en compte** l'affectivité des jeunes, source éventuelle de blocages dans les apprentissages.
- EN But the diversity of pupils is not only social, as psychology has shown, inviting us also to **take account of** young people's affectivity, a potential source of impediments to learning.
- (40) FR Dans cette approche contemporaine, c'est, en réalité, la personne humaine dans toutes ses dimensions qui tend à **être prise en compte** et une conception élargie du droit à la sécurité qui est affirmée.
- EN In this contemporary approach, it is, in reality, the human being in all his dimensions who tends to **be taken into consideration** and a broader concept of the right to safety that is asserted.
- (41) FR À côté du produit intérieur brut (PIB) par habitant, le concept de développement humain **prend** notamment **en compte** l'espérance de vie, les taux d'alphabétisation et de scolarisation, la participation des femmes à la vie sociale, les atteintes à l'environnement et l'accès aux technologies de l'information et de la communication.
- EN Alongside Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per inhabitant, the concept of human development **embraces**, in particular, life expectancy, literacy rates and the percentage of children in full-time education, the participation of women in the life of society, damage to the environment and access to information and communication technologies.
- (42) FR D'après les estimations les plus récentes Dans le rapport de suivi 2003-2004. 211 millions de jeunes de cinq à quatorze ans (soit 18 % de cette tranche d'âge dans le monde) seraient ainsi contraints de travailler, un chiffre à revoir à la hausse si l'on **prend en compte** tous les enfants employés - surtout les filles - à des tâches domestiques.
- EN According to the most recent estimates, 211 million young people aged between five and fourteen (in other words, 18 % of this age group worldwide) are said to be forced to work, a figure that rises if all the children - especially girls - employed in domestic tasks **are included**.

- **The other MWVs**

Given the caveat that we stated at the beginning of this study, the analysis of the corpus has unfortunately not delivered a sufficient number of occurrences for the remaining multi-word verbs of the list for us to draw objective conclusions. On the whole, the corpus usually attests only a small part of the translations suggested by the OBDs but often suggests several new translations which ought to be considered for integration in the OBDs (cf. Appendix 7 for a comparison of the results

found within the three OBDs and the results found through the investigation of the LABEL France).

- **Conclusion**

As concluding remarks, we can observe that the results of this study reveal inconsistencies among the four tools: they hardly ever unanimously agree on translations, which sets confusion, suggesting that very few of the suggested translations are 100% reliable. At the end of this analysis, we can also conclude that the assumption stated at the beginning of this section appears as being true: due to its limited size, the LABEL France corpus has not provided a sufficient amount of results for some of the investigated MWVs for us to draw valuable conclusions. However, the corpus has proven to be useful: on the one hand, the examples from the LABEL France corpus gave us insights into the context wherein the various translations tend to occur. On the other hand, the investigation of the corpus generated some “new” translations that do not appear in the OBDs most of the time. Since these results cannot be found in the dictionaries, the subsequent objective sets out to assess their frequency through the investigation of the reference corpus for English Language, namely the *British National Corpus* (BYU BNC).

IV.4 ASSESSMENT OF THE FREQUENCY OF THE SUGGESTED TRANSLATIONS USING THE BYU BNC CORPUS

The results extracted from the *LABEL France* corpus have given an insight into some of the possible ways to translate the listed MWVs. Since the number of results has not been satisfactory enough in order to draw proper and valuable conclusions for some of the 36 MWVs, the frequency of the various translations suggested in the *LABEL France* corpus as well as in the three investigated online bilingual dictionaries will be assessed through the use of the *British National Corpus* (BYU-BNC) for the sake of adding value to this analysis. An inventory of the various translations is thus first developed in terms of frequency. In addition, important to highlight is that – although it delivers valuable results for this register – the results coming from the LABEL France corpus only represent the 'news-magazines' register. As the other registers also deserve and ought to appear in every good dictionary and with a view to check the content of the online bilingual dictionaries' entries investigated previously in the present work, the various registers in which the suggested translations appear will be determined using the 'Charts' option. Finally, a deep analysis of the collocations occurring in the context of the 36 listed MWVs will be carried out in the *BYU*

BNC in order to evaluate the dictionaries' content as well as to suggest other possible collocations to add in the dictionaries' entries.

IV.4.1 Assessment of the frequency of the suggested translations

The complete tables of results generated by the analysis of the *BYU BNC* displaying the frequency of each of the suggested translations as well as the main genres wherein each of them occurs is to be found in Appendix 4. Emphasis must however be laid on some limitations of the analysis: due to the considerable amount of results displayed by the corpus for some of the queried translations, it has been impossible to check each of the occurrences of the translation in context to select the ones matching the meaning we were looking for. This study consequently only provides *rough* but still valuable and comprehensive insights into the frequency of use of a particular translation.²⁶

For “**aller dans le sens de**”, two translations out of the five suggested stand out in comparison to the others in terms of frequency, namely *to move toward(s)* and *to be in line with*. As far as “**avoir le droit de**” is concerned, the three translations suggested—i.e. *to be allowed to*, *to be entitled to* and *to have the right to*—seem to be satisfactory, *to be entitled to* occurring mainly in the Academic genre. The 6 translations suggested for “**avoir l'habitude de**” appear also all as quite frequent in the corpus but should be reordered as follows (from the more frequent to the lesser one): *to usually do*, *to be used to sth*, *to be familiar with*, *to be inclined to*, *to be used to doing*, *to be in the habit of*. More specifically, the analysis also reveals that *to be in the habit of* is very infrequent compared to the other translations and the MWU *to be used to doing* appears mainly in the Spoken register as well as in the fictional genre. Regarding the MWV “**avoir lieu**”, *to happen*, *to occur* and *to take place* are all three valuable and highly frequent translations in the *BNC*. It must however be noted that the verb *to happen*, mainly occurs in the Spoken register and the fictional genre. In the case of “**avoir recours à**”, *to resort to* seems to be a satisfying translation. *To have recourse to* seems however to be rather infrequent and should perhaps be left behind in favor of translation like *to turn to somebody* or *to use*. The MWV “**(se) donner les moyens de**” does not seem to have a word for word equivalent in the English language, as the 6 translations suggested in the four tools are barely frequent. Lexicographers processing the online bilingual dictionaries may thus look for a more suitable alternative in the English language. For “**être à l'origine de**”, both translations *to be the*

26 In the following description of the results of the analysis, the translations are always listed in accordance with the order “from the more frequent translation to the lesser one”.

impetus for and *to be at the origin of* are very uncommon in terms of frequency and may therefore be deleted to the benefit of *to be the cause of*, *to be the source of*, *to be behind*, *to be at the root of* and *to provide*. As far as the translation of the MWV “**être à même de**” is concerned, the MWUs *to be able to* seems to be the best translation in terms of frequency, followed by *to be in a position to*, less frequent. *To have in one's power to* is however infrequent and should be deleted from the dictionaries. With respect to the translation of “**être de l'ordre de**”, the MWU *of about* is the most common translation in English, followed by *in the region of* (Spoken register mainly), *of the order of* and finally *in the order of*. As regards the MWV “**être en cause**”, results of frequency reveal that *to be involved* is the most common of the suggested translations and *to be at stake* at the second place, followed by *to be at issue* and *to be in question*. *To be a question of* appears as quite frequent too but occurs primarily in the Spoken register. *To can* and *to be able to* are the most frequent translations for “**être en mesure de**”. *To be possible to* and *to be in a position to* are also relatively common but appear mainly in the academic genre. Unsurprisingly, *to be doing* is the most common translation for “**être en train de**” in the BNC. *To be in the process of* remains far behind with 277 occurrences appearing mainly in the newspaper genre (which would explain the wide use of it in the LABEL France) whereas the construction *to be being + past participle* is hardly ever found in the corpus and ought to be deleted from the dictionaries. Regarding the three translations suggested for “**être loin de**”, *to be far from* is the most common one in terms of frequency, although they are all three rather infrequent. It should also be noted that *to be a long way off* primarily occurs in the Spoken register and, subsequently, in the fictional genre. The MWV “**être sur le point de**” seems to be mostly translated with *to be about to* in the fictional genre. The MWUs *to be on the verge of* and *to be on the point of* are much lesser frequent but exist. However, *to be rife for* is seems to be utmost infrequent and should disappear from the suggestions. For the translation of “**faire croire que**”, the verb *to tell* seems to be the most frequent but given the high number of occurrences, it has been impossible to check all the cases that meant “faire croire que”. The translation *to persuade* stands in the second position followed by *to lead sb to believe sth*. *To make sb believe sth* is rather infrequent and occurs mainly in the fictional genre. Finally, the translations *to have sb believe sth* and *to delude sb into thinking sth* are both rare in terms of frequency and may be considered to be deleted from the online tools. As far as “**faire en sorte que**” is concerned, *to ensure* seems to be the most frequent possible translation according to the BNC, whereas the expression *to make sure* remains highly frequent in the Spoken register. *To see to it that* is not highly frequent and belongs primarily to the fictional genre. With regard to the various translations suggested for “**faire face à**”,

the verbs *to face*, *to deal with*, *to cope with*, *to tackle* as well as *to meet* seem to be correct and frequent translations, whereby the analysis of the collocations will help determine in which context each of them occur. The translations *to come to terms with*, *to stand up to*, *to face up to* and *to measure up to* are much lesser frequent and belong mainly to the Newspaper and Magazine genres. By contrast, *to stand opposite to* does not appear in the corpus and should consequently be left down. “**Faire la preuve de**” may be translated by the highly frequent verb *to prove* but not by *to show proof of* which is very uncommon. The three translations suggested for the MWV “**faire le choix de**” (*to choose*, *to decide to*, *to opt to*) seem to be adequate in terms of frequency. The verbs *to undergo*, *to suffer from* and *to be the subject of* seem to be good equivalents in English for “**faire l'objet de**”. *To be liable to* and *to be subjected to* stand in the second position for the academic genre, whereas *to be the victim of*, *to be the object of* and *to be the target of* are rather infrequent in the English language. All the translations suggested for “**faire partie de**” appear frequently in the corpus, namely *to be one of*, *to be part of*, *to belong to*, *to be among* and *to be a member of*. The analysis of the collocations of these verbs will help determine in which contexts each of them usually occurs. The four translations suggested for “**faire pression sur**” are not highly frequent in the BNC. Perhaps other alternatives could be found next to *to put pressure on* and *to pressurise*. All the single verbs suggested for the translation of “**faire preuve de**” are unsurprisingly highly frequent in the corpus: *to show*, *to provide*, *to prove*, *to reflect*, *to reveal*, *to demonstrate*, *to display* and *to exhibit* seem thereby to be good translations in terms of frequency. By contrast, the MWV *to be proof of* is rather uncommon and *to show proof of* should be deleted from the dictionaries. As far as the MWV “**jeter les bases de**” is concerned, the English translation *to lay the foundations for* stands out in comparison to the two other suggestions, much lesser frequent. Two of the single verbs suggested for the translation of “**mettre en cause**”, i.e. *to question* and *to challenge*, are both frequent in the corpus. The verb *to implicate* is less frequent but exists in the English language. The expressions *to call into question* and *to be in question* seem conversely to be less frequent in terms of frequency. With respect to the translation of “**mettre en évidence**”, the single verbs *to show*, *to reveal*, *to display*, *to highlight* (academic genre) and *to bring out* are highly frequent possibilities. The multi-word verb *to bring sth to light* seems however to be quite unusual in the English language and ought to be left down in favor of the other alternatives. In terms of frequency, the verbs *to set up*, *to operate* and *to implement* could be good translations for “**mettre en oeuvre**”. *To bring into play* also exists much lesser frequent and appears mainly in the academic genre. As for the translation of “tout mettre oeuvre pour”, the expression *to make every effort to*, *to pull out all*

the stops in order to and *to do everything in one's power* seem to belong primarily to the Newspaper genre. *To establish, to create, to introduce, to set up, to implement* and *to install* are high-frequency verbs in the corpus and could consequently correspond to valuable translations of “**mettre en place**”. *To put sth in place* (which occurs primarily in the newspaper genre, explaining the high rate it has in the LABEL France) and *to mobilize* exist in the corpus but are less frequent, while *to phase in* and *to put into action* are even less frequent and should maybe left behind to the benefit of the other alternatives. By contrast, the expression *to put sth in/into position* should not appear in the dictionaries. One translation of “**mettre fin à**” stands out in comparison to the other suggestions, namely *to end*. *To sort out* and *to get rid of* are less frequent and mainly occur in the Spoken register, while the MWV *to put an end to* is even less frequent and belongs primarily to the fictional genre. *To bring an end to* and *to bring sth to an end* are quite rare compared to the other alternatives. Similarly, the verbs *to end, to finish* and *to terminate* are the most frequent of the suggested translations for the MWV “**mettre un terme à**”. Regarding *to put an end to, to bring an end to* and *to bring sth to an end*, the same observations as for “**mettre fin à**” apply. The most frequent translations suggested for “**ouvrir la voie à**” are *to pave the way for* and *to make way for*, followed by *to open the way for*, less frequent. The MWV *to open up the way* should however be deleted. It can also be observed that all these translations remain less frequent than some other results we obtained for some other MWVs, implying that alternatives should certainly be found. For the translation of “**prendre en compte**”, the verb *to include* stands out in terms of frequency in comparison with the other suggestions, followed by *to take into account, to embrace* and *to take account of*. *To take into consideration* remains less frequent in the BNC. As far as the MWV “**prendre la mesure de**” is concerned, the single verb *to realize* is the most frequent translation among the suggestions. *To weigh up* stands in the second position, followed by *to size up* and *to make an assessment of*, much less frequent. Finally, the expressions *to assess the scale of* and *to understand the full extent of* ought to disappear from the dictionaries. According to results generated by the corpus, the verbs *to participate* and *to take part in* are the most common translations for “**prendre part**”, followed by *to join in* and finally *to play a part in*, much less frequent. The validity of the suggestion *to share* will be assessed in terms of collocational environment. “**Remettre en cause**” can be translated with the highly frequent verbs *to threaten, to question, to challenge* and *to undermine* as well as with the less frequent verbs *to prejudice* and *to cast doubt on* (which both belong to the academic genre) and *to call into question* and *to be in question*. *To put in question* and the expression *to throw sth back into doubt* should both be deleted from the

dictionaries. The expression suggested by the *Larousse* dictionary *to reopen the whole question/debate* does not have any occurrences in the corpus neither. Finally, for the MWV “**tenir compte de**”, *to incorporate*, *to take into account*, *to allow for* and *to take account of* are the most common translations in terms of frequency according to the results from the *BNC*, followed by *to take into consideration*, *to give consideration to*, *to take notice of* and *to make allowance for*, much less frequent.

Although this corpus analysis revealed only rough results for the frequency of each of the translations suggested in the four tools, it has nevertheless allowed us to get an insight into which verbs were more frequent in English compared to others for us to suggest a reordering of the translations as well as to highlight some uncommon default-translations that did not deserve to appear in the OBDs. Thereby, we can observe that the dictionaries suggested around 18 unusual translations in total, misleading the user. From a contrastive point of view, in comparison to the results of the classification of the translations in the three OBDs displayed in Figure 32, this analysis in the *BNC* showed that where French likes to make use of multi-word verbs in writing, English seems to prefer single verbs to reflect the same idea. Single verbs results are outstandingly more frequent than MWUs in the reference corpus, which imply that the lexicographers of the OBDs should look for other alternatives to translate the French MWVs.

IV.4.1 Assessment of the collocations suggested in the OBDs

After having had an insight into the frequency of the translations suggested in the three OBDs, the present analysis aims at investigating the collocational environment of the translations in order to assess the suggestions of the OBDs. To this end, a deep analysis of the collocations will be conducted in the *British National Corpus* using the “Collocate” option. The suggested collocation is first checked within the corpus and marked either with a tick if it exists or with a cross if it does not appear in the corpus (cf. Table 18). Secondly, if the collocation suggested is not satisfactory, some better collocations are provided in the last column of the table, according to the results displayed by the “Collocate” option of the corpus. The lists including the top 20 collocates for each of the suggested translations are to be found in Appendix 5.

Table 18. Assessment of the collocations suggested in the three OBDs

Dictionary	Suggested collocations	Attested through investigation of the BNC?	Better collocations? Remarks?
Oxford	Avoir recours à → to have recourse to (<i>remède, technique</i>) → to resort to (<i>expédient, stratagème</i>) → to turn to (<i>parent, ami</i>) → to go to (<i>agence, expert</i>)	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	
	Être en cause → to be at issue (<i>système, fait, organisme</i>) → to be involved (<i>personne</i>)	✓ ✓	And groups of people: e.g. company, government, staff
	Faire face à → to face (<i>lieu, personne</i>) → to face (<i>adversaire, défi, accusations</i>) → to cope with (<i>exigences, dépenses</i>) → to meet (<i>demande, besoin, dette</i>) → to measure up to (<i>concurrence</i>) → to tackle (<i>inflation, sécheresse</i>)	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ X X	To face + people ok but to face + places quite rare Ok but better: problems, demands, stress, pressure, difficulties,... Better: standards, requirements,...
	Faire l'objet de → to be the subject of (<i>enquête, recherche, critique</i>) → to be subjected to (<i>moquerie, surveillance</i>) → to be the object of (<i>convoitise, haine, lutte, poursuite</i>)	✓ ✓ X	Also: debate, discussion, study,... But better: criticism, analysis, pressure, violence, harassment,... Better: exercise, thoughts, attention,...
	Faire partie de → to be part of (<i>groupe, famille, processus, idéologie, pays</i>) → to be among (<i>les premiers/derniers</i>) → to be one of (<i>avantages</i>) → to belong to <i>the past</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Also: groups of people. Also: things, reasons, people, ways Also: group, family, world, species, category, community, company,...
	Faire pression sur → to be pushing/pressing against (<i>objet, os</i>)	✓	But this verb is rather uncommon in English
	Jeter les bases de → to pave the way to/ lay the foundations for (<i>partenariat</i>)	X	To pave the way to: success, power To lay the foundations for: development, future, study, theory,...
	Mettre en évidence → to highlight (<i>importance, faiblesse, utilité</i>)	✓	Except <i>utilité</i> Better: problems, need, features, differences,...
	Mettre en œuvre → to implement (<i>programme, réforme</i>) → to display (<i>grande ingéniosité</i>)	✓ X	Infrequent in the corpus. Better:

			interest, knowledge, ability, talents, qualities,...
	<p>Mettre en place → to put [something] in place (<i>grillage, programme, règlement, stratégie</i>) → to put [something] in or into position (<i>satellite, troupes, équipe</i>) → to establish, to set up (<i>réseau, marché, régime, institution</i>) → to install (<i>ligne téléphonique, canalisations</i>)</p>	<p>✓ X ✓ ✓</p>	<p>Ok but this translation is quite infrequent. This translation is very infrequent. But check Appendix 5 for more accurate collocations for each of the verbs.</p>
	<p>Prendre la mesure de → to assess the scale of (<i>tâche</i>) → to make an assessment of (<i>événements</i>) → to weigh up (<i>concurrence</i>)</p>	<p>X X ✓</p>	<p>Very infrequent translation. Rather infrequent translation. Better: pros and cons, advantages, costs, consequences,...</p>
<u>Reverso-Collins</u>	<p>Être en cause → [intérêts] to be at stake → [personne] to be involved → [qualité] to be in question</p>	<p>✓ ✓ X</p>	<p>And groups of people: e.g. company, government, staff Better: transfer, market, valuations, status,...</p>
	<p>Faire l'objet de → [discussions] to be the subject of</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Also: debate, study, research, criticism,...</p>
	<p>Mettre en cause → [personne] to implicate → [qualité de qch, honnêteté de qn] to call into question</p>	<p>✓ ✓</p>	<p>Legitimacy, effectiveness, assumptions, credibility, validity, loyalty, involvement...</p>
	<p>Prendre part à → [débat] to take part in → [soucis, douleur de qn] to share</p>	<p>✓ ✓</p>	<p>Also: activities, programme, survey, project,...</p>
	<p>Tenir compte de → [fait, circonstances] to take into account → [conseils] to take notice of</p>	<p>✓ X</p>	<p>Also: factors, interests, needs, costs.. Rather infrequent translation in the corpus. Criticism, problems,...</p>
<u>Larousse</u>	<p>Avoir lieu a) [entrevue, expérience, spectacle] _ to take place b) [accident] _ to happen c) [erreur] _ to occur</p>	<p>✓ ✓ ✓</p>	<p>Also: changes, discussions, negotiations,...</p>
	<p>Avoir recours à → [moyen] _ to resort to → [personne] _ to turn to</p>	<p>✓ ✓</p>	<p>Refer to Appendix 5 for more accurate examples of collocations</p>
	<p>Être à l'origine de <u>être à l'origine d'un projet de loi</u> [personne] → to be behind a bill ces erreurs judiciaires <u>ont été à l'origine du</u> projet de loi → these miscarriages of justice were the impetus for the bill</p>	<p>✓ X</p>	<p>Also: decision, attempt, coup, attack, conspiracy, ... This translation is infrequent in English.</p>

<p>être à l'origine d'une querelle → [personne] _ to be behind ou to be the cause of an argument</p> <p>→ [malentendu] _ to be at the origin OU root of an argument</p>	<p>±</p> <p>✓</p>	<p><i>To be behind</i> and <i>to be the cause of</i> usually collocate with negative terms (problems, accident, trouble, attack,...) but the collocation with “argument” does not appear in the corpus.</p> <p>Ok for <i>to be at the root of</i> but <i>to be at the origin</i> is a very infrequent translation in the English language.</p>
<p>Être en cause [talent] → to be in question</p>	<p>X</p>	<p><i>To be in question</i> is a rather uncommon translation. Better: transfer, market, valuations, status,...</p>
<p>Faire face à (sens propre) → to stand opposite to, to face</p> <p>[danger] → to face up to</p> <p>[obligations, dépense] → to meet</p>	<p>±</p> <p>X</p> <p>✓</p>	<p><i>To stand opposite to</i> does not appear in the corpus. <i>To face</i> danger but <i>to face up to</i> facts, years in jail, responsibilities,...</p>
<p>Faire l'objet de [poursuites] → to be liable to [soins particuliers] → to receive/be given [fouille corporelle] → to be subjected to</p> <p>[attaques répétées] → to be the victim of [enquête] → to be being + ed</p> <p>[vives critiques] to be the object/target of</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Better: scrutiny, criticism, analysis, pressure, violence</p> <p>Also: to be the subject of investigation. But more common: to be the subject of sharp criticism.</p>
<p>Faire partie de</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> [comité] → to be a member of, to be on, to sit on [club, communauté] → to be a member of, to belong to [équipe] → to belong to, to be one of, to be in [licenciés] → to be among, to be one of [métier, inconvénients, risques] → to be part of 	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>	<p>Precision: to belong to a community, to be a member of a club. Most common: to be in, to be a member of, to be one of. Refer to Appendix 5 for more accurate examples of collocations. Exception: to be part of the job = highly frequent.</p>
<p>Faire preuve de [jugement] → to show [sang froid] → to show/display</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Refer to Appendix 5 for more accurate examples of collocations</p>
<p>Jeter les bases de [loi, politique] → to lay the foundations of</p>	<p>X</p>	
<p>Mettre en cause [quelqu'un] → to implicate [quelque chose] → to call into question</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>E.g. legitimacy, effectiveness, assumptions, future, credibility, validity,...</p>
<p>Mettre en évidence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> [exposer] to display [détail, talent] to bring out 	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	<p>Better: colour, flavour, qualities, differences, products, points,</p>

			aspects,..
	Mettre en place 1. [équipement] _ to set up (separable), to install 2. [plan] _ to set up (separable), to put into action 3. [réseau] _ to set up (separable)	✓ ✓ ✓	Most common: to install equipment Refer to Appendix 5 for more accurate examples of collocations of <i>to set up</i> .
	Prendre part à 1. [discussion, compétition, manifestation] _ to take part in 2. [cérémonie, projet] _ to join in, to play a part in 3. [attentat] _ to take part in, to play a part in 4. [joie, peine] to share (in)	✓ ✓ ± ✓	Refer to Appendix 5 for more accurate examples of collocations But <i>to play a part in</i> less frequent To take part in the attack ok. But not to play a part in. to share + emotion = very common

On the whole, this analysis reveals that the treatment of the collocations of the MWVs in the OBDs is quite satisfactory (as the only collocations that are not attested by the corpus analysis refer to verbs that are actually uncommon expressions in the English language, which have already been spotted in the preceding Section) but incomplete. The *Oxford* dictionary suggests collocations for 11 of the 36 surveyed MWVs (30%), the *Larousse* dictionary for 36% of the MWVs and the *Reverso-Collins* only for 14% of them, which are insufficient rates, as providing the collocational environment of the verbs to display contexts is of prior importance for the sake of user-friendliness, given the wide range of possible translations a MWV may have. This corpus study has also allowed to highlight the top 20 collocations for each of the suggestions displayed in the table above (cf. Appendix 5), suggesting examples that the OBDs could insert in the entries in order to be as complete as possible and guide the user to select the right context.

CHAPTER V: DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In this Section, results of this case study are summarized and further discussed and ends with some concluding remarks as well as suggestions of avenues for further research.

The primary purpose of the present study was to investigate the treatment of the French multi-word verbs in the currently increasingly used and very popular French-English online bilingual dictionaries and set out to demonstrate that these multi-word units were not dealt with adequately in the dictionaries. We first conducted an analysis of the treatment of the MWVs in the OBDs in terms of coverage, accessibility and display of the entries and secondly assessed the translation equivalents suggested by these OBDs against corpus data, which we believe to being able to considerably enhance the quality of the entries in the OBDs.

In the first part of the study, we aimed at investigating the treatment of the multi-word verbs in the French-to-English part of the OBDs first in terms of coverage. We found out that the range of MWVs included in the OBDs was quite satisfactory, with the exception of the Reverso-Collins dictionary which failed to cover 19,5% of the queried verbs, though the surveyed French MWVs are highly frequent in the French language. Regarding the display of the MWVs, the analysis revealed that most of the MWVs are displayed in sub-entries and that the only cases where they are granted the headword status are found in the Reverso-Collins, with the caveat that these entries bring confusion and questions the reliability of the dictionary due to the fuzzy border between the *Reverso-Collins* and the unreliable *Collaborative Dictionary* parts. We however discovered some nice surprises – though not to a high rate – in the *Larousse* and the *Oxford* dictionaries which we labelled as “sub-entries +”, where the MWVs seemed to be quite well treated. This part of the analysis finally showed that a high rate of MWVs appear only in example-sentences, quite hidden within the entries, which hampers ease of accessibility for the user. If this is thereby an adequate way to show the occurrence of a MWV in a particular context, the selected 36 MWVs are highly frequent verbs in the French language and deserve consequently a more extensive treatment, given the range of possible contexts in which they can occur (and subsequently, the various translations in English they may have). The last part of this chapter described the accessibility to the MWVs in the OBDs, which was revealed as being quite elusive and could even be compared to a real obstacle course for the user. We discovered around ten different strategies to access a MWV in total, where

there should actually be one per dictionary, or even better one single browsing strategy for all of the OBDs. Making accessibility a cumbersome matter for the user, the highlighting of these numerous strategies ruins the myth of “so easy and quick to access” with which the OBDs are so often prized, confirming what Lew rightly pointed out (2011: 238): “it is perfectly possible to produce an online dictionary where access is more cumbersome than in a paper book”. If the final outcomes of all these parts of the analysis would not be a problem for advanced learners of the English language or for translators, it would not meet the current expectation of a good dictionary to customize its entries on target of its users, as learners may feel at a loss using the OBDs. This observation eventually leads us to the suggestion of perhaps – even though these are supposed to be basic lexicographic skills – integrating guides on how to browse into the OBDs similar to the guides in paper dictionaries.

In the second part of the study, a deep investigation of the English translation equivalents suggested by the OBDs for the French MWVs has been carried out against corpus data in order to fulfill the objective to assess their frequency, their collocational environment and eventually spot potentially missing or wrong translations. The first issue we observed while gathering all the translations suggested in the OBDs is that the three OBDs hardly ever unanimously agree on the translations, which brings confusion and further questions the reliability of these translations. The subsequent classification of these translations also revealed that the OBDs suggested a significant range of word-for-word equivalents as well as translations very close to the original French MWV, which does not match the results of frequency extracted from corpus data. In the light of the recent studies which have convincingly demonstrated the role of corpus data in the improvement of bilingual dictionaries' entries, the second step of the analysis has been to assess the frequency of the suggested translations using the unidirectional translation corpus *LABEL France*. This analysis has however been subjected to some limitations due to the limited size of the corpus. Moreover, as rightly pointed out by Moon (2008: 333), the kind of MWUs encountered may vary according to genre. The *LABEL France* corpus will thus mainly produce MWVs that are typical of the genre 'news/newspaper' it represents. One of the encouraging outcomes of our study is that, in the absence of large French-English translation corpora, it has nonetheless revealed a number of inconsistencies among the four tools, as they hardly ever unanimously agree on translations, which brings confusion, suggesting that very few of the suggested translations in the OBDs are 100% reliable. The corpus analysis has also proven to be useful in some other perspectives: on the one hand, the

examples from the LABEL France corpus gave us insights into the context wherein the various translations tend to occur. On the other hand, the investigation of the corpus generated some “new” translations that do not appear in the OBDs most of the time. As an offset to the caveats of the analysis conducted in the *LABEL France* corpus, a further research has been carried out on the *British National Corpus* as a third step. For the sake of adding value to the preceding analysis, we evaluated the frequency of the translations suggested in the three OBDs as well as in the *LABEL France* corpus through the use of the reference corpus *BNC*. The analysis of corpus data has allowed us to determine the frequency of each of the suggested translations and consequently to suggest a reordering of these equivalents as well as to detect some default-translations to be deleted from the OBDs. The last step of the study finally involved an assessment of the collocations suggested in the three OBDs analysing the collocational environment of each of the translations through the use of the *BNC*. The results of this analysis showed that the treatment of the collocations of the MWVs in the OBDs has conclusively proven to be rather satisfying but incomplete. Furthermore, only few collocations are presented in the OBDs, highlighting a further failure of online bilingual dictionaries, as providing the collocational environment of the MWVs to display contexts is of prior importance for the sake of user-friendliness, given the wide range of possible translations a French MWV may have in the English language. This corpus study has also allowed to spotlight the top 20 collocations for each of the translations, suggesting examples that the OBDs could insert in the entries in order to be as complete as possible and guide the user to select the right context. As a final remark, even though the *Reverso-Collins* lags far behind in the translations it suggests, it has however a major asset, namely the “Exemples et traductions en contexte” part: we observed some very interesting suggestions in this section, coming from the tool Reverso Context, and we strongly believe lexicographers should use this part of the dictionary to process their entries.

Important to highlight is that users of a dictionary do not come from the same background in language. If a translator will easily retrieve what he was looking for because the expression is somewhere in his/her head due to his/her experience in the language, this would be very different for a learner who could fall into the trap of literal and clumsy translation. And learners are nowadays the main public of the online tools. This case study and its outcomes suggest that, due to the variety of possible translations and the difficulty to select the adequate one in the right context for a learner of the English language, the multi-word verbs are definitely a type of word that

deserves to appear as headword entries in dictionaries as well as be given the extensive treatment a headword requires. The present analysis has outlined avenues for improvements, suggesting a reordering of the translations, going from the more frequent to the lesser one, as well as an ordering by register/genre. Due to the wide range of possible translations for each of the MWVs, OBDs should provide the user with more examples and collocations to have an insight into the various contexts wherein the translation appears, since examples and the collocational environment of a word are the key to clarity and a key component of well-treated entries (see for example Frankenberg-Garcia 2014).

This analysis lent support to the proponents of the incorporation of corpus data in the compilation of electronic bilingual dictionaries. The present case study is a further example that underlines how corpora constitute a valuable help in the field of lexicography and how helpful they can be in processing bilingual lexicography. The utilisation of authentic data allowed to reveal several weaknesses in the treatment of MWVs in the online bilingual dictionaries. They considerably enriched the range of translations, allowed to detect infrequent phrases, provided valuable examples and helped improving the collocational coverage of the OBDs. From a contrastive point of view, along the lines of Granger's (2014) study who spotted the pervasiveness of multi-word sequences in the French language, this corpus analysis has also revealed that where French likes to make use of multi-word verbs in writing, English seems to prefer single verbs to reflect the same idea and lexicographers of the OBDs should strive to find alternatives to the frequent word-for-word translations suggested online.

There is however ample scope for improvement: as further considerations, we can suggest a deeper analysis of frequency and the collocational environment of the translations suggested for each MWVs as, given the high number of occurrences some results generated, we sometimes could not peruse all of them in order to spot which one of them corresponded to the meaning we were looking for. Furthermore, the results regarding the frequency of the translations only took British English into account. An investigation of the COCA corpus for American English could thus be further considered for results to be as accurate and as representative as possible.

To conclude, this thesis has demonstrated how phraseological patterns are still largely disregarded in bilingual lexicography, showed some of the weaknesses of the online bilingual dictionaries, thus

failing to be good dictionaries in the light of the 21st century challenges, and has showed how the use of corpora can considerably enhance the quality of their entries. To finish on a positive note, we want to cite the fairly true comment of Granger and Lefer (2013: 174):

“The combined use of bilingual corpus resources and lexicographers' bilingual expertise should ensure that phraseology, which has only begun to show its promise in bilingual lexicography, is at the root of major lexicographic developments in the coming years”

and we are sure that, using the right tools, the dictionary of the future will meet all its challenges.

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