

DICTIONARY MAKING SOFTWARE InField 2008

1. Toolbox: www.sil.org/computing/toolbox/ (free)

- database structure/files saved as .txt files
- full documentation and 'help' files
- supports full MDF package
- best paper printout of dictionary and reversed finder list

2. Lexique Pro: http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/show_software.asp?id=92 (free)

- excellent add-on to Toolbox
- export as XML, HTML, or text
- allows sharing of dictionary among compilers via web

LD&C review at: <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/ldc/December2007/techreviews/guerin.pdf>

3. FLEX Fieldworks Language Explorer: www.sil.org/computing/fieldworks/flex/ (free)

- can be networked to allow multiple collaborators
- does not yet support full MDF package
- better to start from scratch rather than attempting to import files

LD&C review at: <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/ldc/June2007/techreviews/butler.pdf>

4. WeSay: www.wesay.org/wiki/Main_Page (free)

- targeted for local low-end users, with OLPC laptop
- still in developmental stage
- great potential, but not there yet

LD&C article at: <http://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10125/1368>

5. TshwaneLex: <http://tshwanedje.com/> (Academic License: €150)

- proprietary software
- minimal set-up required, multiple users supported
- fully functional, but cannot use in association with texts (unlike Toolbox)

LD&C review at: <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/ldc/June2007/techreviews/bowern.pdf>

6. Dictionary Development Process: http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/show_software.asp?id=98
(free)

- rapid data collection based on semantic domains
- some controversy about its usefulness

Adapted, in part, from a handout distributed by Charles Grimes entitled “*Some current issues in dictionary making.*” (April 24, 2008/University of Hawai‘i). All links current as of 5/27/08.