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# MORPHOLOGY




# What is Morphology?

- Morphology is the scientific study of word formation.
- Minimal meaningful / grammatical unit of a word.
- The study of patterns of word formation.
- How words are originated, grammatical forms, on what basis the word class is formed etc.



# Words and Morphemes

- A word: is a unit which is constituent at the phrase level and above.
  - This is being the minimal possible unit of a reply.
  - It has regular stress pattern, being the smallest constituent that can be moved within a sentence without making the sentence ungrammatical.
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# Morpheme

- Minimal, meaningful unit of a word or in the grammar of a language.
- Not further divisible or analyzable into smaller forms.
- The units of 'lowest' rank out of which words, the units of next highest rank are composed.
- If we try to break up a morpheme, it loses its identity and it left with meaningless noises.

# Morpheme


- Semantically different from other phonemically similar or identical linguistic forms. e.g. *Speaker, deer, faster*
- A sound sequence is not always regarded as a morpheme. E.g: man—\*woman, unnatural, unfaithful, \*under, \*sun
- It could be also termed as an abstract unit of meaning.
- A synonym for *morpheme* is *glosseme*

# Examples:

- Unladylike
- Un+ lady+ like
- Encouragement
- En+ courage+ ment
- Disillusionment
- Dis+ illusion+ ment
- Anti-naxalism
- Anti+ naxal+ ism



# What is morph then?

- A morph is the phonetic realization of a morpheme. The real form of the morpheme, the actual utterance of the morpheme.
  - A formal unit with a physical shape.
  - This is similar to the concept called 'phone' in phonology
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# Allomorph

- Allomorph is phonologically distinct variants of the same morpheme.
- Different realization, manifestation of the same morpheme.
- They vary in shape or pronunciation according to their condition of use.
- They are a class of morphs which are semantically identical.
- They are derived from phonological and morphophonemic rules.



# Examples of Allomorph

- English plural morpheme [s]
- Phonologically conditioned-
- [-s] with morphs ending in /p, t, k/, etc. i.e. with voiceless sounds such as *cats*, *thanks* etc.
- [-z] with morphs ending in /b, d, g, v, l/ etc. i.e. with voiced morphs such as *dogs (dogz)*, *rims (rimz)* etc..
- [-iz] with morphs ending in /z, ʒ, tʃ/ etc. i.e. with sibilants, affricates, fricatives such as *buses*, *boxes*, *horses*, *classes* etc.

# Morpheme types:

- Free morpheme: A free morpheme is a word that can occur by itself. It can stand alone. However, we can add other morphemes in it. E.g. *boy, man, establish, measure* etc are free morphemes.
- Bound morpheme: It is a grammatical unit that never occurs by itself, but is always attached to some other morphemes such as [s] in *cats*, [ness] in *kindness*, [ize] in *visualize* etc.

# Affixation

an affix is a bound morpheme that is joined before, after or within a root or stem.

- Types of affixes
- Prefix: this is added before the root or stem of the word. E.g. *unpredictable*, *unresponsive*, *revitalize*, etc.
- Suffix: a suffix is an affix that is attached to the end of a root or stem. E.g. the plural formatives, -s, -en, -ing, -d, -er, -est, and –less, -ment, -ion, etc.

# Affix types

- Infix: An infix is an affix that is inserted within a root or stem. It is added in the base form of a word to create a new word or intensify meaning. E.g.
- In Philippines (Tagalog)
  - *buli* root, 'buy'
  - *-um-* infix, 'agentive'
  - *Bumili* 'bought'
- In Indonesian:
  - *Cerlang* 'luminous', *cemerlang* 'brilliant'

# Affix types

- Circumfixes: Consists of two parts- a prefix and a suffix that together create a new word. The prefix and suffix are not considered as separate. E.g. In Dutch *berg* 'mountain' → *ge-berg-te* 'mountain chain'.
- Simulfix: A simulfix is a change or replacement of vowels or consonants (usually vowels) which changes the meaning of a word: E.g. *eat* → *ate*, *tooth* → *teeth* etc.

# Root, Stem, Base

- Root: A root is the irreducible core of a word, with absolutely nothing else attached to it. E.g. *jump-jumps, jumping, jumped*. Here, *jump* is the root.
- Stem: the stem is that part of a word that exists before the addition of any inflectional morpheme. E.g. *worker* → *workers*, *shift* → *shifted*

# Root, Stem, Base

- Base: Base is any unit of a word where any kind of affixes can be added. It could be both inflectional or derivational. E.g. *boy* → *boys*, *boy* → *boyish*, *boy* → *boyhood*
- The bottom-line: All roots are bases, bases are called stem in context of inflectional morphology

# Inflectional & Derivational

- Inflectional morpheme: Inflectional word formation is word formation that expresses grammatical distinctions. They perform certain grammatical functions like:
  - number (singular vs plural), E.g. cat-cats, child-children etc.
  - tense (present vs past) E.g. walk-walks-walking, walked
  - person (first, second, third) E.g. 3<sup>rd</sup> PSG



# Inflectional →

- Case (subject, object, possessive) E.g. mother's child, mothers' children etc.
- It doesn't result in the creation of new lexeme or words.
- It changes the grammatical form of lexemes to fit into different grammatical context.
- Inflectional is more relevant to syntax
- Inflectional morphemes don't change meaning and word class.

# Inflectional -->

- Inflectional morphemes are very productive in nature.
- Inflectional morphemes are limited in number.
- Inflectional morphemes usually block further affixation of a suffix. Eg *agree + ed* \*[-s]

# Derivational Morphemes

- In derivation a new word is formed by adding an affix to the root or stem
- Derivational morphemes form new words either:
  - a) by changing the meaning of the base to which they are attached. E.g. kind → unkind (adjectives), obey → disobey (verbs)
  - b) by changing the word-class that a base belongs to. E.g. kind → kindly, simple → simply

# Derivation of Nouns

- Verb → Noun

    speak → speaker

    swim → swimming

    read → reader/ reading

Adjective → Noun

    kind → kindness

    good → goodness

    black → blackness

Noun → Noun

    mother → motherhood

    sense → non-sense

# Derivation of Nouns

- Apart from these process we can also add suffixes such as *-hood (status)*, *-ship (state or condition)*, *-ness (quality, state or condition)*, *-ity (state or condition)*, *-ment (result or product of doing the action)*, *-al (act of smthg)*, *-er (agentive)*, in the words like *brotherhood*, *friendship*, *wildness*, *sincerity*, *government*, *refusal*, *walker* etc.

# Derivation of Adjective

- Noun → Adjective
  - master → masterly
  - brother → brotherly
- Verb → adjective
  - read → readable
  - love → loveable
- Adjective to adjective
  - common → uncommon
  - possible → impossible

# Derivation of Adjective

- We also have some suffixes which are used to form adjective such as *-less (without)*, *-ful (having)*, *-ic (pertaining to)*, *-al (pertaining to or of the kind)* in the words like, *powerless*, *colorless*, *powerful*, *democratic*, *medicinal*, etc.
- There are also some prefixes which are used to derive adjective: *-in (inaccuracy)*, *-im (improper)* etc.


# Derivation of Verbs

- Noun → Verb
  - analysis → analyze
  - slave → enslave
- Adjective → verb
  - rich → enrich
  - legal → legalize
- Verb → verb
  - continue → discontinue
  - pack → unpack





# Derivation of Verbs

- Prefixes used for deriving verbs
    - re (revisit), en (encage)
  - Suffixes used for deriving verbs
    - ize (nationalize, sympathize),
    - fy (codify, modify)
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# Word formation processes

- *Ways of creating new words*




# Word Formation Processes

- **1.invention (Coinage):** In this process, a complete new word is added. The root is normally the new word. Later on other affixation can be added. E.g. *xerox, sim, googling, yahoo, smsing*
- Sometimes, these lexicons also get the status of common noun like *surf* (for all detergent), *Colgate* (for all toothpaste)
- Googling (searching), seascape (like landscape, cheeseburger (like hamburger)




# Coinage

- **The invention of totally new terms.**
  - Often a brand name becomes the name for the item or process associated with the brand name
  - **Examples:**
    - hoover
    - Kleenex
    - Xerox
    - Kodak
- 



# Morphology

- *2. Derivation (affixation), which is forming new words by the combination of bound affixes and free morphemes.*
  - There are three types of affixation:
  - *A. prefixation: where an affix is placed before the base of the word*
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# Morphology

- *B.suffixation*: where an affix is placed after the base of the word e.g blooming, absolutely
- *C.infixation*: where an affix is placed within a stem ()

# Word Formation Processes

- 3. Back Formation: Here, the direction of derivation is inverted.
- The less complex word is derived from the more complex word by omitting something.

E.g.      *to sculpt* ← *sculptor*

*babysit* ← *babysitter*

*terminate* ← *terminator*

# Back formation

A word of one type (usually a noun) is reduced to a word of a different type (usually a verb) through widespread use.

- *to donate* from *donation*
- *to opt* from *option*
- Other examples: *pronunciate* (< *pronunciation*), *resurrect* (< *resurrection*), *enthuse* (< *enthusiasm*),

**Hypocorism**: from a longer word we form a single syllable word and add *-y* or *-ie*. (e.g. *television=telly*, *vegetable=veggie*, *moving picture=movie*)



# Morphology

4. *Blending*, where *two words merge into each other*, such as:

*brunch*      from breakfast and lunch

*smog*              from smoke and fog

# Word Formation Processes

- Blending: This is the combination of the first or complete part of one word and second part of another.
- Examples:
  - stagflation: stagnation+ inflation
  - fantabulous: fantastic + fabulous
  - happenstance: happening + instance
  - splog: spam + blog
  - blodgebrity: blog + celebrity
  - youngistan: young + hindustan

# Blending

smoke + fog = smog


- Blending consists of taking the beginning of the first word and the end of the second word to make a new word.
- Examples: *motel* (motor hotel) *brunch* (breakfast & lunch), *telethon* (television & marathon),
- To describe the mixing of languages we use terms such as *Spanglish* (*Spanish + English*), *Itanglish* (*italian+English*),

# Word Formation Processes

- 5. Acronym and Initialism: When the first letters of words are taken to create a new word alike, it is called acronym. When it is not like a word, it is known as abbreviation or initialism. E.g. *AASU, NASA, AIDS*
- Sometimes more than one letter is taken to make acronym. E.g. RADAR (Radio detecting and ranging), MODEM (Modulator and demodulator) etc.





# Acronyms

- They are formed from the initial letters of a set of other words.
  - They are usually pronounced as single words (*e.g. NATO, PIN, etc.*)
  - Or as a set of letters (*e.g. CD, VIP, etc.*)
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# Word Formation Processes

- Reverse Acronym: the creator starts with as words, then put different words to represent all the letters. E.g.
  - HOPE– Health Opportunity for People Everywhere
  - PUSH– People United to Serve Humanity
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- 6.Clipping: It is a means of creating new words by shortening already existing words- usually a single syllable(cutting either the first or final part of a word or both leaving a part to represent the whole ). This is usually done to save time and space. e.g.
    - Quiz ← inquisitive
    - prof ← professor
    - Bus ← omnibus
    - Flu ← influenza
    - Info ← information

# Clipping

- The shortening of a polysyllabic word.
  - *facsimile* = *fax*
  - *advertisement* = *ad*
  - Other examples:
    - *bro* (< *brother*), *pro* (< *professional*), *prof* (< *professor*), *math* (< *mathematics*), *veg* (< 'vegetate', as in *veg out in front of the TV*), *sub* (< *substitute* or *submarine*).



# Word Formation Processes

- 7. antonomasia (Eponym ): These are new words based on proper nouns/ names. They all involve some degree of change in the meaning of the word.
- E.g. *boycott, nicotine, sandwich, hamburger, Jean, atlas, nemesis (greek god), platonic, panic (greek god), assassin etc.*


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# Word Formation Processes

- *8.Reduplication, which is forming new words either by doubling an entire free morpheme (total reduplication) or part of a morpheme (partial reduplication).*
- Reduplication: In this process all or part of the base is repeated as prefix or suffix.
- Examples: *willy-nilly, hodge-podge, hanky-panky, so-so etc.*
- Full reduplication: good-good, small-small,
- Partial reduplication: zig-zag,

# Morphology

- In Indonesian, for example, total reduplication is used to form plurals:
- rumah                                   `house`
- rumahrumah                           `houses`
- ibu                                       `mother`
- ibuibu                                   `mothers`
- lalat                                     `fly`
- lalatlalat                               `flies`


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- 9. Compounding: When two words or at least two root morphemes are joined together, the derived word results a compounding.
  - Example: *tea + pot → teapot, week + end → weekend, greenhouse, windmill, kindhearted*
  - Types: Right-headed: greenhouse is a kind of house, skyblue is a kind of blue.

# Word Formation Processes

- In Synthetic Compound, the head lexeme is derived from a verb such as *hand-washing, user-driven, home-made etc.*
- In Attributive compounds, the non-head works as a modifier like *snail-mail, windmill.*
- the referent of the compound is always same as the referent of its head. Windmill, blackbird
- Sometimes the derived word has an external reference. Pickpocket.

# Morphology

- *Compounding is forming new words not from bound affixes but from two or more independent words: the words can be free morphemes, words derived by affixation, or even words formed by compounds themselves.*
- e.g.      girlfriend                      air-conditioner
- blackbird                          looking-glass
- textbook                              watchmaker

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- In compounds, the primary stress is on the first word only, while individual words in phrases have independent primary stress.

- *'blackbird*                      *'black 'bird*

- *'makeup*                        *'make 'up*

- 1. The wool sweater gave the man a red neck.

- 2. The redneck in the bar got drunk and started yelling



# Compounding


- A compound noun is made up of more than one word and functions as a noun.
- They are often written as two words (*e.g. bank account, tin opener, answering machine etc.*)
- Usually the main stress is on the first part of the compound. (*e.g. alarm clock, tea bag, bus stop, etc.*)
- but they can be written also as a unique word:
  - *skateboard, whitewash*




# Examples by word class

## Modifier + Head = Compound

- Noun + noun                    **football,policeman,ice-cream,iceberg**
- Adjective + noun                **blackboard,blackbird**
- Verb + noun                    **breakwater,washing machine**
- Preposition + noun              **underworld,inside,**
- Noun + adjective                **snowwhite,**
- Adjective + adjective          **blue-green**
- Verb + adjective                **tumbledown**
- Preposition + adjective        **over-ripe**
- Noun + verb                    **browbeat**
- Adjective + verb                **highlight**
- Verb + verb                    **freeze-dry**
- Preposition + verb              **undercut**
- Noun + preposition            **love-in**
- Adjective + preposition       **forthwith**
- Verb + preposition            **takeout**
- Preposition + preposition    **without**

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- In general, the meaning of a compound noun is a specialization of the meaning of its head. The modifier limits the meaning of the head. This is most obvious in descriptive compounds, in which the modifier is used in an attributive or appositional manner.

A *blackboard* is a particular kind of board which is (generally) black, for instance.





- ***Endocentric compounds:***

the whole meaning can be figured out by an analysis of its parts or "morphemes". Ex.: "car-wash".

*semantically transparent*


- ***Exocentric compounds***

the whole meaning cannot be established by an analysis of parts;


Ex.: "hogwash".

*semantically opaque*





The words that follow are compounds. For each one, give the meaning of each member of the compound and that of the compounded form. Say whether the compound is semantically transparent or not.

- a. battlefield
  - b. scarecrow
  - c. churchyard
  - d. dogwood
  - e. hoodwink
  - f. handkerchief
  - g. inmate
  - h. postman
  - i. ladysmock
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# 10. Borrowing

- Taking over words from other languages.
- Examples from Italian
  - *pasta*
  - *piano* and what else?
- *Loan translation or calque:*
  - If there is a direct translation of the elements of a word into the borrowing language
  - *un grattacielo* (– a skyscraper)

# 11. Conversion or category change

- It is a change in the function of a word. Usually from noun to verb

*e.g. butter – have you buttered your toast?*

Or verb to noun, or verb to adjective:

- Phrasal verbs: *to print out – a printout (noun)*
  - *to take over – a take over (noun)*
- Verbs: *to see through – a see through top (adjective)*

# 12. Portmanteau / Zero / Null

- Portmanteau: When a single morpheme represents simultaneously two or more grammatical functions is called portmanteau morpheme. Examples:
- In English [-s] is added to denote singular, present, 3<sup>rd</sup> P, and also plural.

# Portmanteau / Zero / Null

- Zero/ Null: A zero morpheme doesn't have explicit phonetic form.
- In English, the plural morpheme of the words *two sheep, two furniture, two equipment* have no overt morpheme.
- Null morpheme is also present in English verb. Eg. Run → run → run, cut → cut → cut



# 13.echoism: onomatopoeia

- Words referring to the sound of creature or natural phenomenon
- E.g wheeze, thunder .cling, click. Quqack