



ESP HSSP
SPRING 2009

H2205: INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS

Morphology

Carve every word before you let it fall.

—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES SR.

Morphology

- Study of words and word formation
- Example: how we form plurals:
 - cat → catss
 - meemeet → meemeetss

Words

- Word = smallest free form
- Free = not fixed to a certain position
 - Rhino is weird.
 - Is Rhino weird?
- “Rhino” is a word



Words

- What about this?
 - Bolt runs.
 - *-S Bolt run.
- “-S” ≠ word



Isolation

- Words can occur in isolation
 - Person A: What movie did you watch?
 - Person B: Bolt.
 - Person A: Cool.
- “Bolt” and “cool” are words.

Isolation

- What about this?
 - Person A: What movie did you watch?
 - Person B: -S.
 - Person A: What? That's not a word!
- “-S” ≠ word

Isolation

- A word must be a free form
- Doesn't have to be isolated:
 - Person A: Are they happy?
 - Person B: *Are.

Morphemes

- Words sometimes have smaller parts
- Called morphemes
- Morpheme = smallest unit of meaning

Morphemes

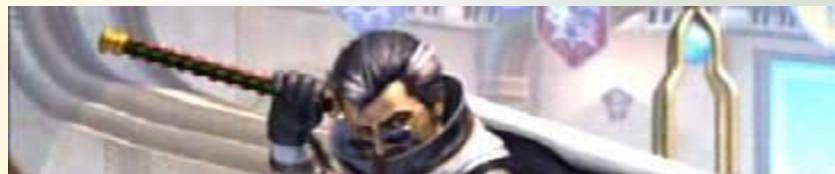
- Teacher = teach + er
- “Teach” w/ a meaning of giving knowledge
- “er” makes the verb a noun meaning someone who does the verb (someone who teaches)

Morphemes

- Languages = ?
- Languages = language + s
 - “language” meaning medium of communication
 - “s” makes the noun plural

Morphemes

- Human = ?
- Is it “hu” + “man”?



Hu



man

Morphemes

- Or “human”?

Auron (Human)



Morphemes

- Some words are morphemes
- “Human” is a word of one morpheme
- One morpheme words are simple words
- Two or more morpheme words are complex words

Morphemes

- No single part of “human” contributes to its meaning
- i.e., “hu”, “hum”, “huma”, “u”, “um”, “uma”, “uman”, “m”, “ma”, “man”, “a”, “an”, “n” have no meaning related to “human”

Morphemes

- Free and bound
- Free morphemes can be isolated
 - Trains = train + s
- Bound morphemes cannot
 - Trains = train + s

Allomorphs

- Different forms of a morpheme
- “a” and “an”

Complex Words

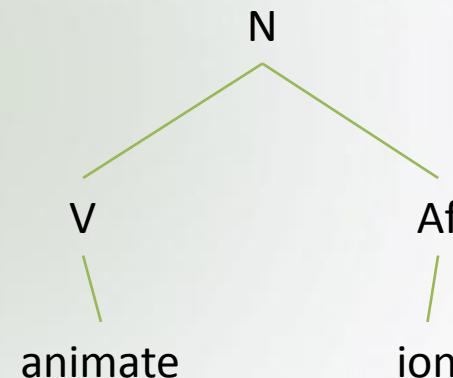
- Typically contain root morpheme and affixes
- Root types (lexical categories) include
 - Noun (N)
 - Verb (V)
 - Adjective (A)

Affixes

- = Bound morphemes
- Attached to base
- If before, then prefix
- If after, then suffix

Affixes

- Animation = animate + ion
- “animate” = root/base
- “ion” = affix (suffix)



Infixes

- Affix inside of a morpheme = infix
- Very rare in English

Infixes

- Example infix: frickin'
- Massachusetts + frickin' (as infix):
 - Massafrickinchusetts
- Commercial + frickin' (as infix):
 - Comfrickinmercial

Infixes

- Is there a rule for where “frickin” is placed?
- More examples:
 - *Massachufrickinsetts
 - *Commerfrickincial
 - Alafrickinbama
 - Gifrickinraffe
 - Mofrickinzilla

Infixes

- “Frickin” infix placed before primary stress
- So...
 - Introfrickinduction
- But!
 - Frickininfixes (“prefix”)

Infixes

- Tagalog infixes:
 - sulat “write” → s + in + ulat → sinulat “wrote”
- Arabic infixes:
 - katab “write” → k + u + t + i + b → kutib “wrote”

Derivation

- Process of word creation from affixes
- Common derivational affixes:
 - -er
 - -able
 - -ize
 - anti-
 - in-

Derivation

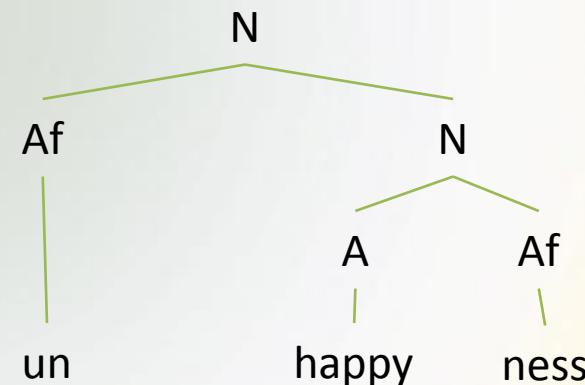
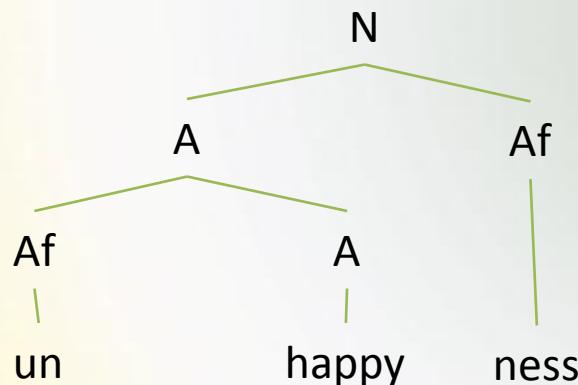
- Deconstruct “worker”:
 - work (?) + er (Af → N)
- Is “work” the verb (V) or the noun (N)?

Derivation

- Compare with other –er derived words
- Teacher
 - teach (V) + er (Af → N)
- Runner
 - run (V) + er (Af → N)
- “Teach” and “run” = verbs → “Work” = verb

Complex Derivation

- Consider “unhappiness”
- Which is correct?

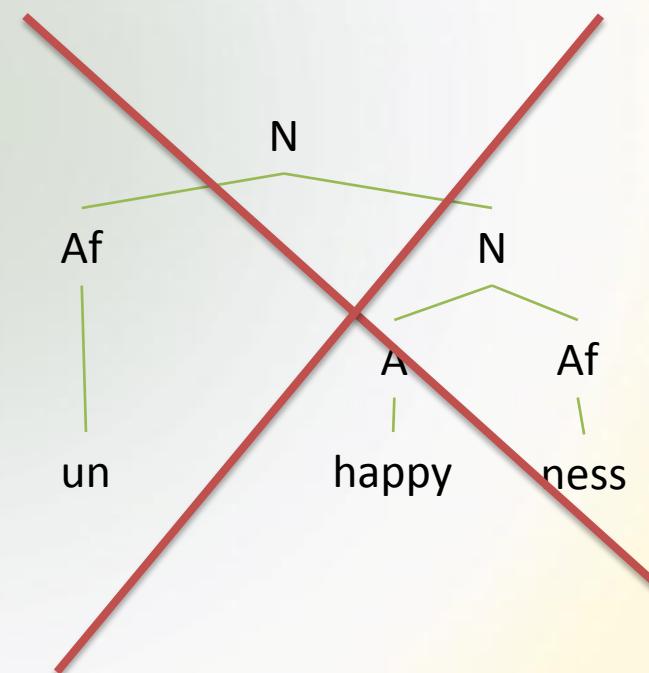
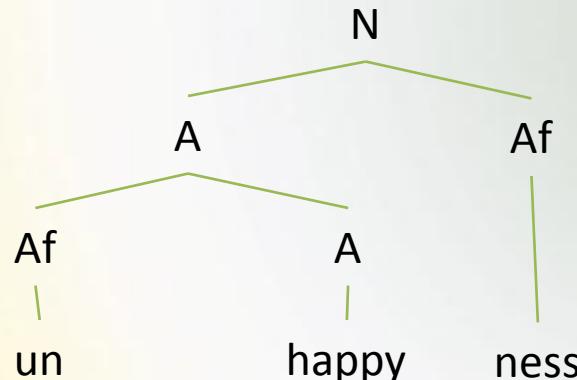


Complex Derivation

- Compare with other words:
- Un + knowledgeable (A) → unknowledgeable
- Un + knowledge (N) → *unknowledge

Complex Derivation

- “Un” combines with adjectives, NOT nouns



Compounds

- A compound word is a combination of two or more words
- Slide show = slide (N) + show (N)
- Snow white = snow (N) + white (A)

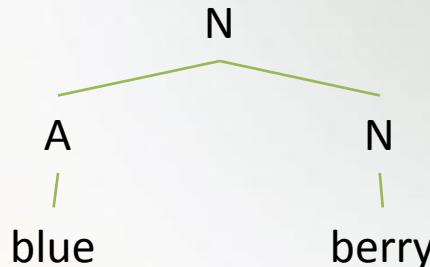


Compounds

- Every compound has a head
- It determines the lexical category (noun, adjective, etc.)

Compounds

- Blueberry = blue (A) + berry (N)
- “berry” is the head → makes the compound a noun



Compounds

- So is “blueberry” a “blue” berry?
- Or is it a “blueberry”

Not blue!



Compounds

- Compounds vs. non-compounds
- Depends on stress
- blueberry = blúeberry
- blue berry = bluebérry

Compounds

- Wisdom tooth = a type of tooth
- Wisdom tooth is an endocentric compound
- Endocentric compounds are subtypes of the head



Compounds

- Saber tooth = a type of BIG cat
- Saber tooth ≠ a type of tooth
- saber tooth is an
exocentric compound
- Exocentric compounds are
not subtypes of the head



Compounds

- Major difference in endo- and exocentric compounds
- Wisdom tooth (sing.) → wisdom teeth (pl.)
- BUT!
- Saber tooth (sing.) → Saber tooths (pl.)

Incorporation

- Process of creating compound verbs
- In Chukchee:

| Without incorporation | With incorporation |
|-----------------------------|---|
| tə-pelarkən qorap. | tə-qor-ap-pelarkən |
| I-leave reindeer | I-reindeer-leave |
| “I’m leaving the reindeer.” | “I’m in the process of reindeer leaving.” |

Inflection

- Process of word change to express change in grammatical info
- i.e., cat → cats
- Addition of “s” suffix makes “cat” plural



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Inflection

| <u>Number →</u> <u>Person ↓</u> | Singular | Plural |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| First | I love | we love |
| Second | you love | y'all love |
| Third | he loves <u>_</u> | they love |

Inflection

- English has weak inflection system
- Look at French:

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Inflection

| <u>Number →</u> <u>Person ↓</u> | Singular | Plural |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| First | j'aime (je + aime) | nous aimons |
| Second | tu aimes | Vous aimez |
| Third | il/elle aime | ils/elles aiment |

Inflection

- Inflection does not change lexical category
- Derivation might change lexical category

Inflection

- Marked by:
 - Affixes
 - Ablaut
 - Tone change
 - Suppletion
 - Reduplication

Ablaut

- Vowel change within a word to reflect grammatical change
- Sing (pres.) → sang (past)
- Goose (sing.) → geese (pl.)



Tone Change

- In Mono-Bili:
 - dá “spanked” → dà “will spank”
 - zí “ate” → zì “will eat”
- High tone = past
- Low tone = future

Suppletion

- Complete word change:
 - Spanish: voy “I am going” → fui “I went”
 - German: ist “is” → sind “are”

Reduplication

- Turkish:
 - javaʃ “slowly” → javaʃ javaʃ “very slowly”
 - Full reduplication
- Tagalog:
 - takbuh “run” → tatakbuh “will run”
 - Partial reduplication

Summary

- Morphology = study of words and word formation
- Words made up of morphemes
- Affixes make complex words
- Compounds made up of 2+ words
- Inflection = morphological change to reflect grammatical change

NT: Phonetics

- /'stʌ.diɪ ʌv sāʊndz/
 - Study of sounds!
- /nɛkst tʰaɪm juːt lɜːn ðə aɪ pʰiɪ eɪ/
 - Next time you'll learn the IPA
(International Phonetic Alphabet)
- [nɛkst kʰlæs ɪz ɒn 'eɪ.pʰrɪt foθ]
 - Next class is on April 4th

LOTW: Sanskrit

संस्कृतम् samskrtam



LOTW: Statistics

- ~14,000 speakers
- ?th largest by speakers
- 1500BCE - ?
- Spoken in Mattur, India and other places
- One of 22 official languages of India

LOTW: Classification

- Indo-European → Indo-Iranian → Indo-Aryan
- Devanāgarī script / Latin alphabet
- Sanskrit refers to “*samskr̥tā vāk*”, the cultured language

LOTW: History

- Migration theory ~2000 BCE to India/Pakistan
- Earliest text is the Hindu text, *Rigveda*
- ~1500 BCE = Vedic Sanskrit
- ~1000 BCE = Classical Sanskrit
- Spoken language died some ~2000 years later

LOTW: Written Sample

वैश्वानरस्य समतौ सयाम राजा हि कं भवनानामभिश्रीः
 इतो जातो विश्वमिदं वि चष्टे वैश्वानरो यत्तते सर्येण
 पर्ष्टो दिवि पर्ष्टो अग्निः पर्थिव्यां पर्ष्टो विश्वा औषधीरा विवेश
 वैश्वानरः सहसा पर्ष्टो अग्निः स नो दिवा स रिषः पातु नक्तम
 वैश्वानर तव तत सत्यमस्त्वस्मान रायो मधवानः सचन्ताम
 तन नो ...

vaiśvānarasya sumatau syāma rājā hi kām bhuvanānāmabhiśrīḥ
 ito jāto viśvamidaṁ vi caṣṭe vaiśvānaro yataste sūryeṇa
 prṣṭo divi prṣṭo aghniḥ pr̄thivyāṁ prṣṭo viśvā oṣadhirā viveśa
 vaiśvānaraḥ sahasā prṣṭo aghniḥ sa no divā sa riṣaḥ pātu naktam
 vaiśvānara tava tat satyamastvasmān rāyo maghavānah sacantām
 tan no ...

-ऋग्वेद

-ṛgvedá

May we be in the favor of the Universal One
 For indeed he is king, sustainer of beings.
 Born from here he views all this world,
 The Universal One takes his place with the sun.
 Agni, invoked in heaven, invoked on earth,
 Invoked, he has entered all the plants.
 The Universal One, Agni is mightily invoked,
 ...

-Rigveda Book 1, Hymn 98

LOTW: Spoken Sample

- [Spoken Sanskrit in Jhiri, India](#)
- [Heart Sutra \(by Imee Ooi\)](#)
 - Musical arrangement of a Buddhist mantra

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