

ENG509

➡ Morphemes

Morphemes are minimal units of meaning within words.

➡ What is a Word?

A word is a unit of language conveying meaning.

➡ Types of Words

- Free morphemes (standalone words)
- Bound morphemes (prefixes, suffixes)
- Inflected words (changed form)
- Derived words (new meaning)

➡ Empirical Tests for Wordhood

Tests determine word status:

- Phonological criteria
- Syntactic criteria
- Semantic criteria

➡ Inflection vs. Derivation

- Inflection: modifies word form (tense, number)
- Derivation: creates new word (prefixes, suffixes)

➡ Two Approaches to Morphology

- Item-and-Arrangement: focuses on morpheme combination
- Item-and-Process: emphasizes word formation processes

➡ Primary and Secondary Affixes

- Primary affixes: directly attach to roots
- Secondary affixes: attach to derived words

➡ Linguistic Exaptation, Levelling, and Analogy

- Exaptation: reuses existing structures
- Levelling: simplifies irregularities
- Analogy: creates new forms based on patterns

➡ The Saussurean Sign

The Saussurean sign represents the relationship between signifier and signified.

➡ Motivation and Compositionality

- Motivation: iconic or arbitrary
- Compositionality: meaning derived from parts

Zero Derivation

Zero derivation creates new words without affixes.

Other Derivational Processes

- Blending
- Acronym
- Clipping
- Formation

➡ Regular and Irregular Inflections

- Regular inflections: follow predictable patterns
- Irregular inflections: exhibit unique changes

➡ Relationship Between Lexemes

Lexemes relate through:

- Synonymy
- Antonymy
- Hyponymy
- Meronymy

➡ Word Class & Conversion

Word class changes through:

- Derivation
- Conversion

➡ Compound vs. Phrases

- Compounds: fixed expressions
- Phrases: variable expressions

➡ Blends and Acronyms

- Blends: combine sounds and meanings
- Acronyms: abbreviate phrases

➡ **Morphological Structures**

Morphological structures exhibit:

- A-Morphous Morphology
- Exocentricity
- Bracketing Paradoxes
- Parasynthesis

➡ **The Semantics of Zero Derivation**

Zero derivation creates new words without affixes.

➡ **Inflection vs. Derivation**

Inflection changes word form; derivation creates new words.

➡ **Inflectional morphology includes:**

- Case
- Number
- Tense
- Aspect
- Mood

➡ **LEXICAL SOURCE OF ENGLISH WORD FORMATION**

English word formation draws from:

- Native Germanic
- Borrowed Latin/Greek

➡ **Evidence for morphological knowledge comes from:**

- Behavioral studies
- Neuroimaging

➡ **Morphological processing involves:**

- Lexical access
- Word formation

➡ **Influential grammarians include:**

- Aristotle
- Dionysius Thrax
- Apollonius Dyscolus

➡ **English parts of speech:**

- Nouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Pronouns
- Prepositions
- Conjunctions
- Interjections

⇒ **Prescriptive grammar faces challenges:**

- Over-simplification
- Lack of descriptive adequacy

⇒ **What is Syntax?**

Syntax studies sentence structure.

⇒ **Sentence Structures**

Sentence structures:

- Simple
- Compound
- Complex
- Compound-complex

⇒ **Noun phrase structures:**

- Head
- Modifier
- Determiner

⇒ **Verb phrase structures:**

- Head
- Auxiliary
- Main verb

⇒ **Minimal Noun Phrase**

Minimal noun phrase:

- Determiner
- Noun

⇒ **IC Analysis**

IC analysis examines immediate constituents.

Methods of Display

- Tree diagrams
- Phrase structure rules

➡ **Some Flaws of the Theory**

Flaws:

- Over-simplification
- Lack of descriptive adequacy

➡ **Disadvantages of Phrase Structure Grammar**

Disadvantages:

- Limited explanatory power
- Lack of psychological reality

➡ **Biological Evidence for Innate Language Capacity**

Evidence:

- Brain structure
- Genetic basis

➡ **Innate information:**

- Universal Grammar
- Language acquisition device

➡ **Transformational Grammar**

Transformational grammar introduces deep and surface structure.

The Founder and the Theory

Noam Chomsky developed transformational grammar.

➡ **Deep and Surface Structure**

- Deep structure: underlying meaning
- Surface structure: actual sentence form

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Compilation