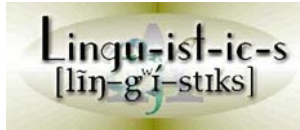


LNGT0101

Introduction to Linguistics



Lecture #6
Sept 24th, 2014

Announcements

- Presentation of Myth 10 next Wednesday Oct 1st: *Some languages have no grammar.*
- Volunteers?

2

Correct the prescriptive violations



3

Today's agenda

- Morphemes.
- Morphological analysis.

4

Morphology

5

Morphology

- Morphology is the study of word structure and word formation in human language.
- The main unit of analysis in morphology is the **morpheme**, which is defined as "the minimal unit of meaning or grammatical function in the language."
- So, ...

6

Morphology

- How many morphemes are there in “open”?
- That’s a *monomorphemic* or *simple word*.
- How about “reopen”?
- This has two units: “re-” and “open”, forming a *multimorphemic* or *complex word*.

7

Morphology

- How about “reopened” then?
Right. Three morphemes: *re-*, *open*, and *-ed*.
- Notice that while “re-” and “open” have meanings, “-ed” has the grammatical function of signaling past tense.
- To distinguish between these morphemes, we say that “open” is the **root** morpheme; “re-” is a **derivational** morpheme; and “-ed” is an **inflectional** morpheme.

8

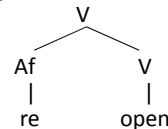
Not all morphemes are created equal: Some are free, and some are bound

- Another distinction between the three morphemes in “reopened” has to do with their ability to occur alone in the language.
- So, while “open” can stand alone in English (e.g., *I want to open the door*), “re-” and “-ed” are dependent morphemes; they cannot stand alone in English (**I re- the door*; **I -ed the door*).
- We call the former type **free** morphemes, and the latter type **bound** morphemes.

9

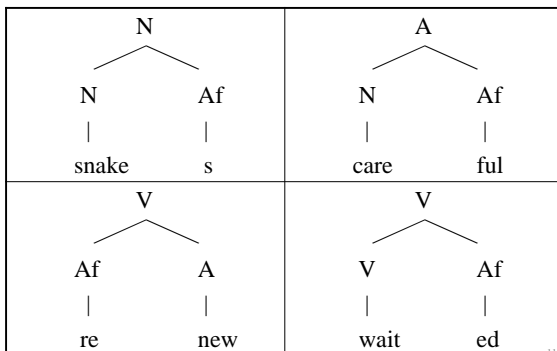
Representing morphological structure

- In languages like English, free morphemes are typically roots and bound morphemes are typically affixes and both types combine together to form words.
- We can represent that graphically in the form of a tree diagram, where V = verb, N = noun, A = adjective, and Af = affix.



10

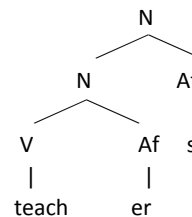
Representing morphological structure



11

Representing multimorphemic words

- We can also use trees to represent the internal structure of more complex words such as *teachers*:



12

Root vs. base

- To make a distinction between the indivisible root of the word and other parts of the word that have affixes combine with them, the term “**base**” (or “**stem**”) is used.
- So, in the “teachers” example, while “teach” is the root that combines with the affix *-er*, “teacher” is the base that combines with the plural affix *-s*.

13

Types of bound morphemes by position

- Affixes are classified into four types depending on their position within the word with regard to the base morpheme:
 - a. A **prefix** is a bound morpheme that precedes the base, e.g., “un-” in *unreal*.
 - b. A **suffix** is a bound morpheme that follows the base, e.g., “-ing” in *reading*.

14

Types of bound morphemes by position

- c. An **infix** is a bound morpheme that occurs within the base, e.g., the morpheme “ta” in Akkadian:
 iʃriq “he stole” → iʃ**ta**riq “he stole for himself”
- d. A **circumfix** is a bound morpheme that occurs on both sides of the base, as in the case of the Egyptian Arabic negation morpheme “maa...ʃ”:
 katab “wrote” → **maa**-katab-ʃ “didn’t write”

15

Lexical vs. Grammatical morphemes

- Morphemes, whether free or bound, can also be categorized as either **lexical** or **grammatical**.
- Lexical morphemes have semantic content (e.g., nouns, verbs, adjectives, derivational affixes). These are what we earlier called **content words**.
- Grammatical morphemes serve a grammatical function (e.g., articles, conjunctions, prepositions, and inflectional affixes for plural, tense, case, etc.). These are what we called **function words**.

16

Roots are not necessarily words

- While the majority of roots in English are free morphemes, this is not necessarily the case in other languages.
- Roots in Arabic as well as other Semitic languages are not words; rather, the root consists of three consonants that are then put into a morphological pattern to derive a word:

Root	Pattern	Word
ktb	C ₁ aC ₂ aC ₃ a	→ kataba “wrote”
ktb	C ₁ uC ₂ iC ₃ a	→ kutiba “was written”
ktb	C ₁ aC ₂ C ₂ aC ₃ a	→ kattaba “caused to write”

- This nonconcatenative way of forming words is typically called **root and pattern morphology**.

17

Huckles and Ceives

- But even English has some roots that are not free morphemes, e.g.,
 “kempt” in *unkempt*
 “luke” in *lukewarm*
 “huckle” in *huckleberry*
- The same can be said about roots of Latin origin, e.g.,
 “ceive” in *deceive*, *perceive*, *receive*
 “mit” in *submit*, *permit*, *commit*
- These are typically referred to as **bound roots**.

18

Derivational morphemes

- **Derivation** is an affixation process whereby a word with a new meaning and typically a new category is formed.
- The affixes involved in derivation are called **derivational morphemes**.
- A list of some English derivational morphemes from the O'Grady *et al's* 2005 book is given on the handout.

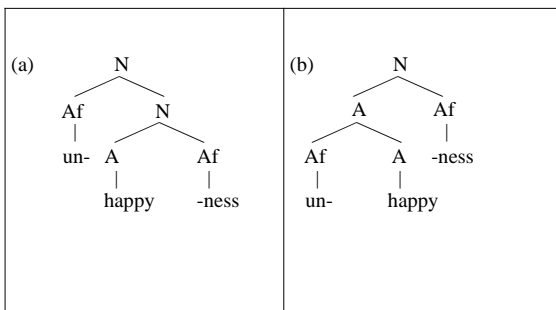
19

Derivational morphemes

- Notice that each derivational morpheme is typically used with a particular lexical category. For example, *-able* is used to derive an adjective from a verb (*doable*); *-ize* is used to derive a verb from a noun or an adjective (*hospitalize, modernize*), etc.
- This helps resolve cases of ambiguity in morphological structure.

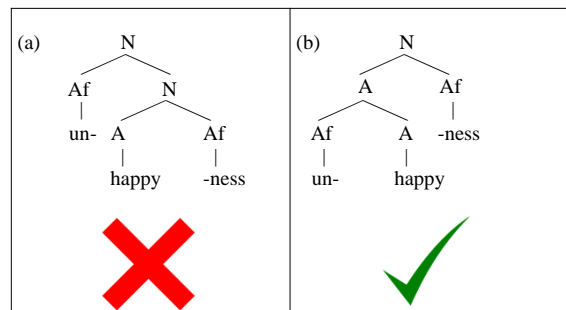
20

Morphological trees: Which tree is the correct one for 'unhappiness'? Why?



21

Morphological trees: Which tree is the correct one for 'unhappiness'? Why?



22

Morphological trees

- Let's draw trees for a couple of words.
undesirability
misrepresentation

23

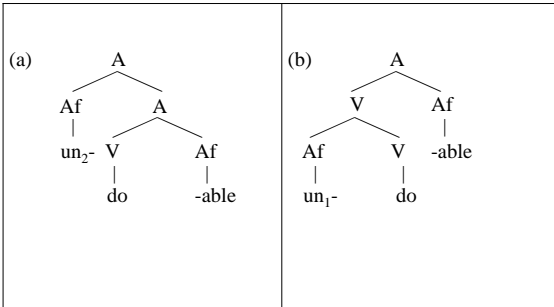
The puzzle of the 'undoable'

What does 'undoable' mean?

Two meanings = Two trees

24

The puzzle of the 'undoable'



25

Inflectional morphemes

- Inflectional morphemes combine with a base to change the grammatical function of the base, e.g.,

Inflectional affix	Example
plural -s	book-s
3 rd third person singular -s	visit-s
comparative -er	young-er

- A list of inflectional morphemes in English is given in your textbook (p. 47).

26

Derivational vs. inflectional affixes

- How do we distinguish between derivational and inflectional affixes?
- Remember that the main distinction is that derivational affixes change the meaning of the base (e.g., *create* vs. *creat-ive*), while inflectional affixes change the grammatical function of a word, but not really its core meaning (e.g., *wait* vs. *wait-ed*).

27

Derivational vs. inflectional affixes: (1) Category change

- Derivational affixes typically change the category of the base, but inflectional affixes do not:
 - poison (N) + -ous → *poisonous* (A)
 - refuse (V) + -al → *refusal* (N)
 - optimist (N) + -ic → *optimistic* (A)
- Compare:
 - hat (N) + plural -s → *hats* (N)
 - look (V) + past tense -ed → *looked* (V)
 - old (A) + superlative -est → *oldest* (A)

28

Derivational vs. inflectional affixes: (2) Order

- Another difference between derivational and inflectional affixes has to do with the order in which they combine with the base: A derivational affix has to combine with the base before an inflectional affix does, e.g.,

free-dom-s	*free-s-dom
black-en-ed	*black-ed-en

29

Derivational vs. inflectional affixes: (3) Productivity

- A third difference between the two types of morphemes has to do with productivity: Inflectional morphemes have relatively few exceptions, whereas derivational affixes are restricted to combine with certain bases.
- So while plural -s can combine with virtually any noun (irregular forms aside), the affix -ize can only combine with certain adjectives:
 - modern-ize, but no *new-ize
 - legal-ize, but not *lawful-ize

30

Morphological analysis

31

Bontoc

[fikas] "strong"	[fumikas] "to become strong"
[kilad] "red"	[kumilad] "to become red"
[fusul] "enemy"	[fumusul] "to become an enemy"

- How are verbs formed from adjectives/nouns in Bontoc?
- If the word for "dark" in Bontoc is [ɲitad], what would the form meaning "to become dark" be?
- If [pumukaw] means "to become white," what would the form meaning "white" in Bontoc be?

32

Zulu

5. Part One:

Consider the following nouns in Zulu and proceed to look for the recurring forms.

umfazi	'married woman'	abafazi	'married women'
umfani	'boy'	abafani	'boys'
umzali	'parent'	abazali	'parents'
umfundisi	'teacher'	abafundisi	'teachers'
umbazi	'carver'	ababazi	'carvers'
umlimi	'farmer'	abalimi	'farmers'
umdlali	'player'	abadlali	'players'
umfundi	'reader'	abafundi	'readers'

- What is the morpheme meaning 'singular' in Zulu?
- What is the morpheme meaning 'plural' in Zulu?
- List the Zulu stems to which the singular and plural morphemes are attached, and give their meanings.

33

Zulu

Part Two:

The following Zulu verbs are derived from noun stems by adding a verbal suffix.

fundisa	'to teach'	funda	'to read'
lima	'to cultivate'	baza	'to carve'

- Compare these words to the words in section A that are related in meaning, for example, *umfundisi* 'teacher,' *abafundisi* 'teachers,' *fundisa* 'to teach.' What is the derivational suffix that specifies the category verb?
- What is the nominal suffix (i.e., the suffix that forms nouns)?
- State the morphological noun formation rule in Zulu.
- What is the stem morpheme meaning 'read'?
- What is the stem morpheme meaning 'carve'?

34

Turkish

17. Following is a list of words from Turkish. In Turkish, articles and morphemes indicating location are affixed to the noun.

deniz	'an ocean'	evden	'from a house'
denize	'to an ocean'	evimden	'from my house'
denizin	'of an ocean'	denizimde	'in my ocean'
eve	'to a house'	elde	'in a hand'

- What is the Turkish morpheme meaning 'to'?
- What kind of affixes in Turkish correspond to English prepositions (e.g., prefixes, suffixes, infixes, free morphemes)?
- What would the Turkish word for 'from an ocean' be?
- How many morphemes are there in the Turkish word *denizimde*?

35

Next class agenda

- More on morphological analysis.
- Processes of word-formation. Finish reading Chapter 2, pp. 49-66.
- Morphological typology: How languages differ. Read the .pdf file on the class website before Monday's class.

36