

Understanding Morphology to Enhance Student's Knowledge in the Accountancy Terms

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?Why Morphology

Morphology

- The system of categories and rules involved in word formation and interpretation.

Word and word structure: The most reliable defining property of words is that they are the smallest free form found in language.

- **Free form** : An element that can occur in isolation and /or whose position with respect to neighbouring elements is not entirely fixed.

e.g. The **birds** left. (bird is a free form but the plural marker (s) is not a word, it is attached to a noun)

1.1- Morphemes : The smallest unit of language that carries information about meaning or function.

e.g. books (consists of two morphemes *book* + *s*)

boy : 1 (mor), boys : 2 (mor), hunters : 3 (mor)

- **Free and bound** : A morpheme that can be a word by itself is called free, while a morpheme that must be attached to another element is said to be bound.

e.g. - house : free , houses : bound

- **Allomorphs** : The variant forms of a morpheme are called its allomorphs .

e.g. cat^s / s / , dog^s / z / , judge^s / iz /

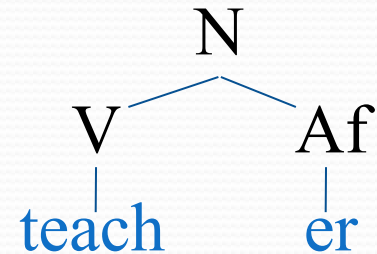
1.2 .Representing word structure

- **Roots and affixes:** Complex words typically consist of a roots and one or more affixes. The root morpheme carries the major component of the word meaning and belong to a **lexical category** noun (N), verb (V), adjective (A), and preposition (P).
- **Affixes** do not belong to lexical category and are always bound morphemes.

e.g. teach**er** (teach) is root and (er) is bound morpheme.

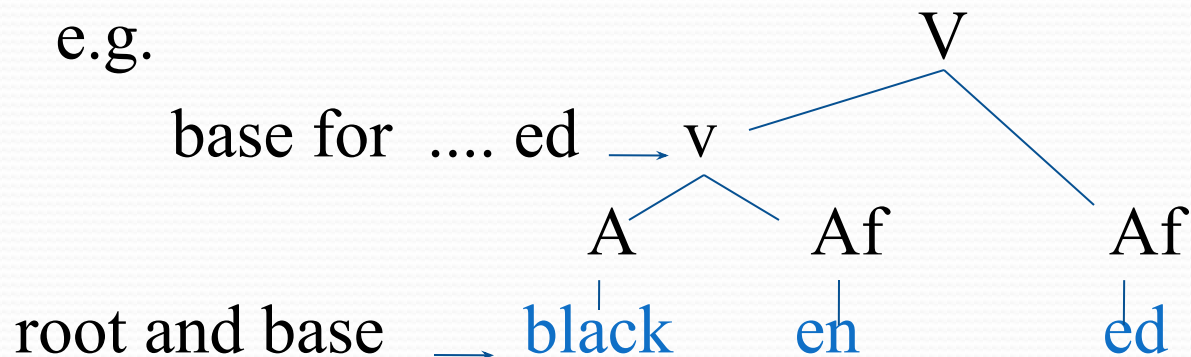
- **Tree structure** : A diagram that presents the details of a words or phrases internal structure.

- e.g.



- **Base** : A base is the form to which an affix is added. In many cases the base is also the root.

- e.g.



1.3. Some common morphological phenomena:

- **Affixation:** The addition of an affix, a process as affixation, is an extremely common morphological process in language. We have three types of affixation:

1- Prefix: An affix that is attached to the front of its base.

e.g. **re**play , **de**activate

2- Suffix: Is attached to the end of its base .

e.g. invest**ment** , manage**ment**

3- Infix : A type of affix that occurs within a base. We don't have infix in English but we have in Philippine and Arabic and so on.

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Internal change

Is a process that substitutes one non-morphemic segment for another.

e.g. sing : sang , food : feed

- The internal changes just considered are not examples of infixing for two reasons.
- **First** : We don't have root morphemes in English the base into which an infix is inserted must exist as a separate form.
- **Second** : There is no independent reason to think that there is a morpheme (oo) in English that means singular and (ee) means plural as in food / feed .

Suppletion

- A morphological process that makes a grammatical contrast by replacing a morpheme with an entirely different morpheme. e.g. is → was
- What's the difference between suppletion and internal change?
 - 1-In suppletion we have different morpheme. is → was
 - 2-Internal change is the substitution of one non-morphemic segment for another. food → feed
 - 3- If the initial morpheme remain or unchanged like (think → thought) we call them (**partial– suppletion**)

Reduplication

Reduplicate all or part of the base to which it applies to mark a grammatical or semantic contrast. We have two kinds of reduplication but not in English.

1- Full reduplication: In Turkish like

(gyzel : beautiful) , (gyzel gyzel : very beautiful)

2- Partial reduplication : In Tagalog like

(takbuh : run) , (tatakbuh : will run)

2- Derivation

Forms a word with a meaning and /or category distinct from that of its base through the addition of an affix .

e.g. teach (v) : teach~~er~~ (n) , fix (v) : fix~~able~~ (A)

e.g. account (v, n) accountant (adj) accounting (n)
accountancy (n)

The origin of (account) is come from (conter) an old French, then in the middle English it changed to (accounting).

3- Compounding

The combination of lexical categories (Ns, Vs, As, and Ps) to form a longer word.

e.g. green house

Types of compounds :

- **Endocentric** : (cave man) a type of man.
- **Exocentric** : (wise nose) is not a type of nose.

4- Other types of word formation

4.1-Clipping : Is a process that shortens a polysyllabic word by deleting one or more syllables.

e.g. prof : professor poli- sci : political science

4.2- Acronyms : Are found by taking the initial letters of some or all of the words in a phrase or title and reading them as a word.

e.g. (**IFRS**) for **I**nternational **F**inancial **R**eporting **S**tandards

e.g. (**IFAC**) for **I**nternational **F**ederation of **A**ccounts

4.3-Onomatopoeia: Words that have been created to sound like the thing that they name.

e.g. plop, hiss, buzz, meow, chirp,

4.4- Word manufacture : The creation of a word from scratch (also called **coinage**).

e.g. Kodak , Teflon , Xerox



Thanks for your attention