



WORD FORMATION PROCESSES

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1. Affixation

- **suffixation**
- **prefixation**
- **infixation**
- **circumfixation**

be able to identify examples of each!



2. Compounding

Compounds consist of two more free morphemes or words consisting of free morphemes.

Examples:

blackbird, clock work, light bulb, notebook, bittersweet

Compounds in English generally have stress on the first syllable.

2. Compounding

In English, when two words are of different grammatical categories, the class of the second or final word becomes the category of the compound

Example: blackbird.

Compounds formed with a preposition are in the category of the nonprepositional part of the compound.

Examples: undertake, uphill



Compounding

- **Endocentric vs. Exocentric**
- A compound in which the meaning points to a subtype of the meaning of one of the two words is an **endocentric** compound.
- An **exocentric** compound is one in which the meaning of the compound is not the sum of its parts.



3. REDUPLICATION

New words are formed by either doubling an entire free morpheme or part of it.

manao *he wishes* mananao *they wish*

matua *he is old* matutua *they are old*

malosi *he is strong* malolosi *they are strong*

punou *he bends* punonou *they bend*

4. Morpheme internal changes

Examples in English:

ring-rang-rung

tooth-teeth

breath-breathe

*Also called **ablaut** when
change is in the vowel.*



5. Suppletion

Irregular forms which follow no patterns

ask - asked

call - called

go - went

NO systematic similarity between past and present tense forms of these verbs.



5. Suppletion

Example from Italian.....

lavorare - lavoro

aprire - apro

andare - vado

6. BLEND

Something “less” than a compound.....

smog = smoke + fog

motel = motor + hotel

Parts of two or more different words join- usually 1st part of one and 2nd part of other.

7. Back formations

A new word is created by removing what is mistakenly considered to be an affix

edit **from** editor;

peddle **from** peddler;

enthuse **from** enthusiasm

orientate **from** orientation

8. Clippings

Word is shortened by deleting one or more syllable

fax from *facsimile*, for example



9. Coinage

Reconstruction and addition of new words. Words created from scratch or derived from names of individuals, places, or product names.





10. Acronyms

- Initial letters taken from several words and new word is created from that string.
- **NATO**





11. Conversion

- Existing word gets assigned to another syntactic category.
- See TABLE 4.22 – p. 135





Crosslinguistic differences in use of morphological processes – OMIT

- **ANALYTIC vs. SYNTHETIC**
- **Analytic (or isolating) languages use sequences of monomorphemic words. Grammatical concepts are separate words rather than derivational and inflectional affixes
EXAMPLE: Chinese**
- **Synthetic languages make use of processes of affixation. Bound morphemes used, in other words.**





SYNTHETIC LANGUAGES

- **A. agglutinating**: words can have several prefixes and suffixes, but they are typically distinct and easy to segment. That is, it's easy to determine morpheme boundaries and each bound morpheme has a single meaning.
- **B. fusional**: affixes not always easily separable from stem. “fused” with stem. Stem itself may not exist as free morpheme. Also, a morpheme may carry more than one meaning.
- **C. polysynthetic**: many affixes combined to make new word. Often nouns are converted into pieces of verb forms. Segmentation is difficult and stems inside of words may not correspond to stems in free forms.



Morphological Analysis 1

[palu]	‘stick’	[spalube]	‘his stick’	[spalulu]	‘your stick’
[ku:ba]	‘dough’	[sku:babe]	‘his dough’	[sku:balu]	‘your dough’
[tapa]	‘flour’	[stapabe]	‘his flour’	[stapalu]	‘your flour’
[geta]	‘tortilla’	[sketabe]	‘his tortilla’	[sketalu]	‘your tortilla’
[bere]	‘chicken’	[sperebe]	‘his chicken’	[sperelu]	‘your chicken’
[do o o]	‘rope’	[sto o obe]	‘his rope’	[sto o olu]	‘your rope’

Isolate the morphemes corresponding to: _____ possession (gen)
_____ 3rd person sg. _____ 2nd person plural

List the allomorphs for the following translations:

tortilla, rope, chicken

Morphological Analysis 2

Turkish nouns

kitap	<i>'book'</i>	elmalar	<i>'apples'</i>	saplar	<i>'stalks'</i>
at	<i>'horse'</i>	masa	<i>'table'</i>	kiz	<i>'girl'</i>
oda	<i>'room'</i>	odalar	<i>'rooms'</i>	masalar	<i>'tables'</i>
sap	<i>'stalk'</i>	atlar	<i>'horses'</i>	sonlar	<i>'ends'</i>
elma	<i>'apple'</i>	adamlar	<i>'men'</i>	meyvar	<i>'fruit'</i>

(1) Provide the Turkish words for: books, man, girls, end, fruit (pl)

(2) Given Turkish odalarda *'in the rooms'* and masalarda *'on the tables'*, provide the Turkish words meaning *'in the books'* and *'on the horse'* .