

WORD FORMATION PROCESS- AFIXATION AND COMPOUNDING AND ACRONYMY

BY

Asst. Prof Nadya Khairy Mohammed

نادية خيري

Word Formation Process

How new words are being formed in the language □

The process consists of a combination of morphemes that are rule-governed (a new word is formed) □

PROCESSES WHERE NEW WORDS ARE FORMED

Major Word Formation Processes ▣

(Processes that are formed frequently or commonly in the use of the English language)

AFFIXATION

Process of forming words by adding affixes to morphemes ▣

English uses only prefixes and suffixes ▣

sing + er = singer

un + real = unreal

COMPOUNDING

Process that forms new words from two or more independent words ▣

Examples of words formed by the compounding process: ▣

girl + friend = girlfriend

text + book = textbook

REDUPLICATION

Process of forming new words either by ▣
doubling an entire word (total reduplication)
or part of a word (partial reduplication)

English makes use of reduplication very ▣
sporadically

Total reduplication is extremely rare! ▣

→ partial
reduplication

Humpty - dumpty

hocus - pocus

SUPPLETION

A relationship between forms of a word wherein one form cannot be phonologically or morphologically derived from the other (this process is rare). □

am vs. was

go vs. went

Main word formation process

Acronym

Words that are formed from the initials of several words. □

RAM = Random Access Memory

CD = Compact Disk

BLENDING

Process of creating a new word by combining the parts of two different words, usually the beginning of one word and the end of another. □

motor + hotel = motel

camera + recorder = camcorder

CLIPPING

Process of creating new words by shortening parts of a longer word. □

doctor → doc

dormitory → dorm

Coinage

Coinage is the invention of totally new terms. □

Sources of coined words: □

1. Trade names of commercial products that become general terms.

e.g. aspirin, kleenex, teflon, xerox.

2. New words based on the name of a person or a place.

e.g. hoover, jeans, sandwich.

Examples

Doo
r

body

ache

master

Ever
y

worm

pile

light

land

work

mistres
s

cutte
r

one

step

bell

stop

where

Wood

Hea
d

Suffixes

Quiet

Violin

Capital

Music

Cheer

Fit

Nutrition

Lion

ly

is
m

ness

ician

ess

ous

ful

ist

ANSWERS

Door

step, stop, bell

Every

body, one, where

Wood

cutter, work, worm, pile

Head

ache, master, light, mistress