واژه شناسی

تکواژها و فرایند ساخت واژه در فارسی و انگلیسی

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پیشگفتار

کتاب حاضر نگرشی بر فرایند ساخت واژگان انگلیسی و فارسی همراه با تحلیل ماهیت تکواژهای تشکیل دهنده آنها است .

واژه

واژگان واحدهایی دستوری به شمارمی آیند که به شکلی منظم و انسجام یافته درنوشتارو گفتار برای انتقال پیامی خاص درقالب جمله کنار یکدیگرچیده می شوند. ازدیدگاه زبانشناختی تاکنون مفهومی واحد و صریح برای واژه ارائه نشده است با این وجود می توان آن را درحوزه های گوناگون زبانشناسی که مهمترین آن " واژه شناسی " - علم مطالعه وبررسی واژگان - است مورد تحلیل و بررسی قرار داد . ازاین دیدگاه هر واژه ترکیبی از یک یا چند جزء معنی داربه شمار می آید که هریک ازاین اجزاء به نوبه ی خود به زیرگروههایی کوچکتر تقسیم شده و در ادامه مورد مطالعه قرار می گیرند.

تكواژ

تكواژ عبارت است ازكوچكترين واحد معنا دار زبان كه قابل تقسيم به اجزاء كوچكتر معنا دار نباشد. تكواژها خود به دوگروه كوچكتر- تكواژهاي آزادوتكواژهاي وابسته - تقسيم مي شوند.

تكواژهاي آزاد

عنوان تكوارُ آزاد به گروهي از تكوارُها اطلاق مي شود كه غير وابسته بوده و مي توانند به صورت مستقل درجمله شركت كرده و نقش خود را ايفا كنند . اين دسته از تكوارُها خود به دو زير گروه كوچكتر - تكوارُهاي آزاد نقشي و تكوارُهاي آزاد وارُگاني - تقسيم مي شوند.

تكواژهای آزاد نقشی

این واحدهای معنایی گروهی از تکواژها به شمار می آیند که علاوه بر ایجاد ارتباطات منطقی میان سازه های جمله اطلاعات دستوری مربوط به این سازه ها را به یکدیگر پیوند می دهند.

حضور این تکواژهادرجمله صورتی انحصاری دارد به شکلی که اتصال هریک ازدیگرانواع تکواژها به آنها عملا غیر ممکن است . از نمونه های این زیرگروه از تکواژها می توان به حروف اضافه و حروف تعریف اشاره کرد.

تكوارهاي آزاد وارگاني

این گروه از واحدهای معنایی تکواژهایی هستند که به شکل آزاد و مستقل در جملات شرکت کرده و اتصال تکواژهای دیگربه آنها امکان پذیراست. ازنمونه های این زیرگروه ازتکواژها می توان به فعل ها و صفت ها اشاره کرد.

تكواژهای وابسته

این واحدهای معنایی گروهی از تکواژها به شمارمی آیند که توانایی حضور درجمله به شکل مستقل را نداشته و تنها با اتصال به تکواژهای آزاد نقش خود را نمایان می کنند . تکواژهای وابسته خود به دوزیرگروه تکواژهای وابسته ی صرفی و تکواژهای وابسته ی اشتقاقی تقسیم می شوند.

تكواژهاي وابسته ي صرفي

تكواژهاي وابسته ي صرفي گروهي ازتكواژهاهستندكه بدون تغييرمعنايانقش دستوري پايهاي كه به آن متصل مي شوند حوزه ي كاربردي آن را گسترش داده و با اعمال مطابقت هاي لازم آن رابراي حضور درجمله هاي گوناگون آماده مي كنند. ازنمونه هاي اين زيرگروه ازتكواژها مي توان به تكواژ ed گذشته ساز يا اسم مفعول سازاشاره كرد.

تكواژهاي وابسته ي اشتقاقي

تكواژهاي وابسته ي اشتقاقي گروهي از تكواژها به شمار مي آيند كه با ساخت واژگان جديد و هم خانواده ضمن تغيير معناي پايه هايي كه به آنها متصل مي شوند در بسياري از موارد نقش دستوري آنها را نيز درفرايندي تحت عنوان اشتقاق تغيير مي دهند . فرايند اشتقاق خود باعملكرد فرايندي ديگربا نام وند گذاري - الحاق وندها شامل پيشوندها ميانوندها و پسوندها به پايه - صورت مي يذيرد.

بيشوندها

پیشوندها وند هایی به شمارمی آیند که درساخت واژگان جدید به ابتدای پایه متصل می- شوند. مانند un (پیشوند منفی ساز)در واژه

unclean

میان وند ها

میان وندها گروهی ازوندها به شمارمی آیند که با انشقا ق پایه وقرارگرفتن درمیان آن واژگان جدید و هم خانواده با پایه می سازند . حضور این گروه از وندها در فرایند ساخت واژگان انگلیسی نایاب بوده اما در زبان هایی همچون عربی به وفور یافت میشوند.

يسوند ها

پسوندها وندهایی هستند که با اتصال به انتهای پایه ویا قرارگرفتن درامتداد دیگر پسوندهای متصل شده به پایه در صرف آن یا اشتقاق واژگان جدید شرکت می کنند . مانند پسوند صرفی جمع ساز

"s":" pens"

" y" : " cloudy " " y" : " cloudy "

تكوار صفر

تكواژ صفر واحد معنا داري از زبان به شمار مي آيد كه تا ثير آن برواژه قابل مشاهده بوده اما خود درواژه حضور مستقيم ندارد.ازاين نمونه مي توان به تا ثير اين تكواژدرصورت واژگاني فعل گذشته ي put درمقايسه با صورت واژگاني همين فعل در زمان حال يعني put

تكواژ سترون

تكواژهاي سترون خانواده اي ازتكواژها هستند كه درگذشته درفرايند اشتقاقي ساخت واژگان شركت مي كرده اما با افول تدريجي عملكرد امروزه به تكواژهايي غير زايا و سترون تبديل شده اند . از ديدگاه زبانشناختي واژگان ساخته شده با حضور اين تكواژها ,واژگاني نهادينه محسوب شده وعلير غم تحميل معناي انحصاري آنهابه پايه متصل شده ,ازديدگاه تقطيع واژگاني اين تكواژها جزيي از همان پايه به شمار مي آيند . ما نند

receive

تكواژگونه ها

تكواژگونه ها صورت هاي مختلف ظهور عيني يك تكواژ دربا فت هاي گوناگون به شمار مي آيند . از نمونه هاي تكواژگونه ها مي توان به حضور تغييرشكل يافته تكواژ

in به

im

درimpolite

اشاره کرد.

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ریشه:
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ریشه عبارت است ازشا لوده یا هسته ی یک واژه که قابل تقطیع به واحدهای کوچکتر نباشد . از نمونه های آن می توان ریشه ی

Help

درواژگانی همچون

helped و helpsرانام برد.

ساقه:

ساقه آن بخش ازواژه به شمار مي آيد كه انواع تكواژهاي اشتقاقي به آن متصل مي شوند . نمونه ي آن رامي توان در

واژه اشتقاقی – doer

(er + do)

مشاهده کرد.

پایه:

پایه بخشی ازواژه متشکل از یک پیشوند اشتقاقی و یک ریشه ی غیر زایا است که تفکیک ناپذیر بوده و عملا یک تکواژ به شمار می آیند . از نمونه ها ی آن در انگلیسی می توان به

receive در واژه ي receive

اشاره کرد.

واحد واژگاني

واحدهاي واژگاني عبارتند ازواژگاني كه همراه با اطلاعات مربوط به خود درديكشنري درج شده اند . مانند

go

و اطلاعات واژگانی مربوط به آن

gone , went , going

واژگان دستوري

واژگان دستوري عينيتي از واحدهاي واژگاني به شمار مي آيند كه از يك نظر ويژهگيهاي دستوري و از نظر ديگر ويژه گي هاي ساختاري آنها مورد توجه قرار داشته باشد . ما نند صفت ها و قيد ها

فرایندهای ساخت واژگان

علاوه برفراینداشتقاق واژگان باروش وندگذاري که پیش ترموردبررسي قرارگرفت فرایندهاي دیگري نیزوجود دارند که باکمک آنها واژگان جدید ساخته شده ودرسطح زبان رواج مي یابند. این فرایندها در ادامه به تفصیل مورد معرفي و بررسي قرار خواهند گرفت.

تركيب

تركيب فرايندي است كه به كمك آن واژه اي جديد با يك نقش دستوري منفرد از تركيب دو ريشه ي موجود و رايج در زبان بدست مي آيد .

text + book : textbook

قرض گيري

قرض گیری عبارت است از افزایش واژگان یک زبان با رواج واژگانی از زبانهای دیگر در سطح آن زبان . مانند : الکل - عربی

alchohol

دراین فرایند برخی از واژگان وارد شده از زبان مبداء تحت تاثیر شاخصه های آوایی زبان مقصد از جمله شاخصه های زبر زنجیری آن قرارگرفته و صورت اصلی آوایی خود در زبان مبداء را از دست می دهند . مانند : مخازن عربی

magazine

ادغام

ادغام فرایندي ازساخت واژگان جدید درزبان است که طي آن تکواژآغازین یک واژه ي رایج در زبان با تکواژ پایاني واژه اي دیگر در همان زبان ترکیب شده واژه اي واحدرا بوجود مي آورد

television + broadcast : telecast

ترجمه ی قرضی

ترجمه ي قرضي فرايندي ازساخت واژگان جديد درزبان است كه طي آن تك تك تكواژهاي تشكيل دهنده ي واژه ي زبان مبداء به معادل هاي تكواژي خود درزبان مقصد ترجمه شده وبا تركيبي مشابه و بدون تغيير در سطح زبان مقصد رواج پيدا مي كنند . مانند

superman

ubermansch : uber + mansch : uber (super) + mansch man

گستره سازی

فرایند گستره سازي عبارت است از بسط معنایي واژگان جدیدي که در ابتدا به شکل اسمهاي خاص تجاري درسطح زبان رواج پیدا مي کنند. مانند

Whitex

محدود سازي

محدود سازي فرايندي از ساخت واژگان است كه طي آن واژه اي رايج در سطح زبان علاوه برحفظ معناي عمومي خود , گستره اي خاص ازجمله نام كالاهاي تجارتي رادرخود مي پذيرد. مانند

(پودر شوینده) tide / Tide

اختصار

فرایند اختصار عبارت است از کوتاه کردن واژگان تا حد هجای اول با حفظ معنای قراردادی آنها . مانند آز : آزمایشگاه

سر واژه

سرواژه فرایند ساخت قراردادی واژگان انحصاری با کاربردهای خاص به شمار می آید که طی آن حرف یا حروف آغازین گروهی معین از واژگان در کنار هم چیده شده و با تطبیق پذیری ازالگوی زنجیره ای ساخت واژگان زبان مورد نظر , واژه ای جایگزین برای دلالت بر کل گروه را ارایه می دهند . مانند : بهسامان : بهینه سازی مصرف انرژی

اخلاط

اخلاط عبارت است ازتركيب دو واژه جهت حصول يك واژه ي غيرانحصاري كه از ديدگاه دستوري وظايف هردو واژه را انجام دهد . در اين فرايند بخش يا بخش هايي از واژه ي دوم حذف شده و به جاي آن نماد (") قرار داده مي شود

این اصطلاح همچنین در مورد سرواژه های خاص با حروف بزرگ نیز به کار می رود.

يس سازي

فرایند پس سازی عبارت است از تحلیل عام تکواژی کلمات اشتقاقی که از طریق آن با درنظر گرفتن شباهت های موجود درساخت واژگان اشتقاقی رایج درزبان از پایه های مرتبط با آنها , ساخت واژگان پایه ای که اساسا درزبان وجود ندارند ازمشتق گونه های موجود آنها در سطح زبان میسرمی شود . مانند

edition ===== : edit / editor(پایه)

تبديل

تبدیل فرایندی است که طی آن یک واژه بدون تغییر شکل ظاهری در نقش دستوری دیگری در جمله ((به کار رفته و معنای مربوط به آن نقش دستوری را از خود بر جمله اعمال می کند . مانند : (فعل اسم butter : to butter

ابداع

ابداع منبعي كاملا نادر از ساخت واژگاني است كه اساسا چه در شكل تكواژي و چه در شكل واژگاني ريشه در هيچ زباني ندارند بلكه صرفا ابداع شده و رواج يافته اند . مانند

: nylon.

نام آوایی

نام آوایي منبعي منحصربه فردازساخت تعدادي انگشت شمارازواژگان است که طي آن ساخت وشکل گیري واژه با الگو پذیري و شبیه سازي اصوات موجود درطبیعت صورت گرفته است. مانند chicken

رویکردهای معنایی

زوج هاي كمينه :جفت واژگاني هستند كه بجزيك اختلاف دريك واج درمكان همسان، داراي شكل يكسان باشند مثال: بار.... كار

اصطلاح: اصطلاح زنجیره ای از واژگان است که برآیند معانی تك تك آنها نمی تواند بیانگر معنی کل زنجیره باشد. مثال: چشم پوشی کردن

ضرب المثل: ضرب المثل رشته واژگاني است كه پيامي بيش از مجموع مفاهيم واژگان به كار رفته در ساخت آن متصور باشد. منبع هرضرب المثل داستانی است كه ضرب المثل به آن ارجاع داده میشود. مثال: مرغ همسایه غازاست

استعاره: استعاره اصطلاحي است كه در آن برآيند معني رسمي واژگان، مورد نظر نيست. مثال: دست تقدير

معناي ذهني: معناي ذهني در برگيرنده آن دسته از مؤلفه هاي بنيادي و اساسي معنا است كه به وسيله (كاربرد تحت اللفظي واژه منتقل مي شوند. مثال: سوزن: تيز، باريك

معناي تداعي: معناي تداعي عبارت است ازتلويحات مرتبط با واژه كه با كاربرد واژه در ذهن تداعي پيدا مي كند. مثال: سوزن: دردناك

مشخصه هاي معنايي: شاخصه هايي هستند كه صحت و درستي معناي جمله آرايه شده را تحليل مي كنند. مثال: دوستم ديوار را رنگ كرد، از نظر معنايي جمله اي صحيح است. ديوار دوستم را رنگ كرد، از لحاظ معنايي نادرست است.

روابط واژگانی: روابط واژگانی شاخصه تعیین کننده معنی واژگان مطابق با ارتباط آنها با دیگر واژگان به کار رفته در جمله، و نه در ارتباط مستقیم با مشخصه های معنای آن واژگان، است. مثال: (دختری به نام) نسترن آمد. نسترن اشاره کننده به نام یك دختر و نه یك گل است.

شمول معنایي: هر گاه معني يك واژه جزئي از معني واژه اي ديگر باشد، اين وضعيت شمول معنايي نام مي گيرد. مثال: رز- گل ، چنار- درخت

هم معنا شمولي: هم معنا شمولي اشتراك دو ياچند واژه در داشتن يك اصطلاح مافوق است. مثال: يشه: حشره..... عقاب: يرنده يشه عقاب: حيوان

هم آوايي: يكسان بودن تلفظ دو يا چند واژه با شكل هاي نوشتاري متفاوت هم آوايي نام دارد. مثال: حيات ... حياط

هم نگاری: عبارت است از یکسان بودن نگارش واژگانی که از لحاظ تلفظ و معنا با یکدیگر تفاوت دارند. مثال: شیر: مایع نوشیدنی مغذی شیر: حیوان درنده

هم لفظي: منظور از هم لفظي، يك فرم نوشتاري يا گفتاري واژه با دو يا چند معني غير مرتبط با يكديگر است. مثال: شانه: وسيله آرايش

چند معنايي: چند معنايي عبارت است ازوابستگي تكنيكي چند معناي مربوط به يك واژه منفرد. مثال: رأس: سر، رئيس، نوك

تک معنایی: عبارت است از اشاره واژه صرفا" به یک معنای منفرد.

فحواي زباني (همبافت): فحواي زباني (همبافت) عبارت است از مجموعه واژه هاي ديگري كه در يك بافت به كار رفته ودرمشخص كردن معني مورد نظر يك واژه خاص نقش تعيين كننده دارند. مثال: عقاب در رأس هرم پرندگان.... رأس: نوك

هم معنایی

هم معنایی یکی از ویژه گی های واژگانی است که طی آن دو یا چند واژه می توانند به دلیل داشتن روابط بسیار نزدیک معنایی دراکثر جمله ها جایگزین هم شده وبه جای یکدیگربه کار روند . مانند answer ~ reply

تضاد معنایی

تضاد معنایی یکی دیگر از ویژه کی های واژگانی است که طی آن دو واژه از دیدگاه معنایی در تقابل با یکدیگر قرار می گیرند . تضاد معنایی از لحاظ تقابل مستقیم و غیر مستقیم خود به دو زیرگروه درجه پذیر و درجه نا پذیر تقسیم می شود

تضاد معنايي درجه پذير

در تضاد معنایی درجه پذیر دو واژه به دلیل وجود درجات قیاسی بین آنها که امکان ساخت صفت تفضیلی و عالی از هریک را میسرمی سازد درتضاد غیر مستقیم با یکدیگر قرار می گیرند. مانند

small VS big (smaller)

تضاد معنایی درجه نا پذیر

درتضاد معنايي درجه نا پذيركه باعنوان زوج هاي مكمل نيزشناخته مي شود دو واژه درتقابل مستقيم با يكديگرقرارمي گيرند به شكلي كه هيچ درجه ي قياسي ميان دوواژه ي متضاد وجودنداشته وصورت منفي يكي ازآنها دلالت برواژه ي ديگردارد . مانند

male VS female

معرفی وندهای پروقوع در انگلیسی

انواع پیشوند ها

Types of prefixes

پیشوندهای فعل ساز

Verb maker Prefixes

en: enable enchain encourage enlarge

em: emboss empower embrace

پیشوندهای منفی ساز

Negative maker prefixes

dis: disappear dishonest disagree disarm disarm

un: unbelievable unkind unknown unlucky uncomfortable

mis: misguide misunderstand mislead mistrustful

in: inaccurate insufficient incomplete independent

im: immortal imperfect impatient

ir: irresponsible irregular irrelevant

il: illegal illiterate illicit

انواع يسوندها

Types of suffixes

پسوندهاي اسم ساز از فعل

Noun makers out of verbs

ment: statement arrangement agreement investment

ation: examination consideration information

ion: invention protection translation dictation

ance: appearance existence assurance

ence: reference difference insistence

al: arrival proposal approval

ing: fastening happening building

y: unity discovery

پسوندهاي اسم ساز از صفت

Noun makers ou of adjectives

ness: whiteness fatness happiness

ship: hardship

hood: falsehood maidenhood

ity: timidity scarcity tropidity

dom: freedom wisdom

پسوندهاي اسم ساز از اسم

Noun makers out of nouns

hood: neighborhood childhood manhood

ship: membership leadership citizenship friendship

dom: kingdom

ist: botanist geologist biologist

پسوندهاي صفت ساز از اسم

Adjective makers out of nouns

less: faithless careless hopeless senseless

some: troublesome

ish: childish foolish

ible: sensible

able: comfortable

like: manlike

ful: lawful careful doubtful faithful

يسوندهاي صفت ساز از فعل

Adjective makers out of verbs

less: restless fearless

able: readable changeable eatable

ive: aggressive exceptive active

پسوندهاي اسم ساز از فعل

Noun makers out of verbs

er: player lecturer writer teacher

or: actor visitor ventilator

ess: actress

پسوندهاي فعل ساز از صفت

Verb makers out of adjectives

ize: realize legalize familiarize rationalize

en: shorten loosen fasten tighten lessen

يسوندهاي فعل ساز از اسم

Verb makers out of nouns

en: strengthen lengthen

Structure of English Morphology

Introduction

We can study the structure of language in a variety of ways. For example, we can study classes of words (parts of speech), meanings of words, with or without considering changes of meaning (semantics), how words are organized in relation to each other and in larger constructions (syntax), how words are formed from smaller meaningful units (morphology), the sounds of words (perception and pronunciation or articulation), and how they form patterns of knowledge in the speaker's mind (phonetics and phonology) and how standardized written forms represent words (orthography). Since this article is devoted to the exploration of English through its words, the focus here is on phonetics and morphology (word structure).

Phonetics

All words are, at their most basic, collections of different sounds. Phonetics is the branch of linguistics that deals with the sounds of speech and their production, combination, description, and representation by written symbols. Sounds are generally categorized by place of articulation, method of articulation, and voicing. While these individual sounds are the most basic elements of language, they do not have meaning of themselves some sounds. (Refer to the book "PHONETICS" - by Mohammad Azarvash —Pb. by Ketabe Sabz)

Morphology

Morphology is the study of the structure and form of words in language or a language, including inflection, derivation, and the formation of compounds. At the basic level, words are made of "morphemes." These are the smallest units of meaning: roots and affixes (prefixes and suffixes). Native speakers recognize the morphemes as grammatically significant or meaningful. For example, "schoolyard" is made of "school" + "yard", "makes" is made of "make" + a grammatical suffix "-s", and "unhappiness" is made of "happy" with a prefix "un-" and a suffix "-ness".

Inflection occurs when a word has different forms but essentially the same meaning, and there is only a grammatical difference between them: for example, "make" and "makes". The "-s" is an inflectional morpheme.

In contrast, derivation makes a word with a clearly different meaning: such as "unhappy" or "happiness", both from "happy". The "un-" and "-ness" are derivational morphemes. Normally a dictionary would list derived words, but there is no need to list "makes" in a dictionary as well as "make."

How are words formed?

Morphology is the study of word structure. Though it appears on the surface that English words are irregular and idiosyncratic — go vs. went, foot vs. feet — there is a limited set of processes that allow speakers to create new words.

First, some preliminaries. All languages have words and morphemes. Words can be freely moved around in a sentence. For example, cats is a word: Cats, I like. (Hamsters, I don't.)

Cats is a complex word, made up of two morphemes; a morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning or function within a language. The two morphemes are the root cat and –s, which means 'plural'. –s is a bound morpheme, meaning that it must attach to something else and cannot be freely moved around; I can't just say "-s" in response to the question "Do you have one cat or more than one?" Free morphemes, on the other hand, can stand alone as words.

English often allows multiple bound morphemes within a single word by a process called affixation. Affixation is the addition of prefixes, suffixes, and infixes to a root morpheme Bound morphemes that follow the root are suffixes (things like –ful, -ly, -ness in words like hopeful, quickly, or weirdness), while morphemes that precede the root are prefixes (for example, mis- as in misunderstand).

So, in a word like mistrustful we have a two bound morphemes, the prefix misand the suffix -ful, surrounding the root, trust:

mis-trust-ful

Or in a word like friendliness, we have a root followed by two suffixes:

friend-li-ness

English, like many languages, sometimes uses affixation to indicate tense. Although most English words use the — ed suffix to indicate past tense (as in walked, pushed), irregular past tense is formed in various ways. Examples include the replacement of the verb with one that is very different (go vs. went — an example of suppletion), an internal change affecting the vowel (sing vs. sang), or a zero morpheme, which simply means no visible past-tense suffix is attached (put vs put)

Children learning English, as well as adult second language learners, have a strong tendency to make irregular forms regular, yielding charming errors such as goed for went, or foots for feet. These errors show that what's being learned is a rule, something like our brain thinking "attach –ed to make the past tense", rather than learning past-tense verbs one at a time. Errors like these also show that children don't necessarily imitate their parents!

How are new words formed?

President Bush used affixation to unintentionally create the word securitize ('the process of making something secure'). New words are regularly being formed through familiar word formation processes; below are a few examples of these processes, along with some words that result from their application.

An acronym is formed out of the first letter of each word of a phrase. It's not uncommon to hear someone lol at a good joke (from LOL — laugh out loud) or exclaim WTF when something unexpected happens. Scuba (Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus) and radar (RAdio Detection And Ranging) are examples of older acronyms that we don't necessarily recognize as such anymore.

A backformation removes a part of the word that resembles a morpheme in order to coin a new word. For example, in the word burglar, English speakers misanalyzed the –r as an agentive suffix (a suffix that indicates someone does

something), similar to the –r in writer. This process left us with the verb burgle, meaning 'steal'. The Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee has a lounge area just beyond security called the recombobulation area — formed by backformation from the word discombobulate where the dis- was mistakenly taken to be a prefix and then replaced with the common prefix re-. The "recombobulation area" is a place where you can get yourself organized: put your shoes back on, put your laptop back into your bag, and so on.

A blend combines two words to create a new word. Smog is a blend of smoke plus fog. Mockumentary combines mock and documentary. Jeggings are snugfitting leggings that look like jeans. Recently, Sarah Palin inadvertently created the word refudiate by blending refute and repudiate.

Clipping is the reduction of a word into one of its component parts. The recently-coined word app meaning 'application for a mobile device' is clipped from application.

Compounding is the combining of two or more roots to make a new word, such as birdhouse or redneck ('hillbilly'). A recently-formed compound is pumphead: a person who has lost mental acuity after being attached to a heart-lung machine during heart surgery.

Examples such as these illustrate the creative capacity of language. Our knowledge of morphology allows us to combine the pieces of old words to create something new.

An overview of the English morphological system

Basic terminology with definitions and examples

• MORPHEME = the smallest meaningful unit of language (any part of a word that cannot be broken down further into smaller meaningful parts, including the whole word itself). The word 'items' can be broken down into two meaningful parts: 'item' and the plural suffix '-s'; neither of these can be broken down into smaller parts that have a meaning. Therefore 'item' and '-s' are both morphemes.

- FREE MORPHEME = a morpheme that can stand alone as an independent word (e.g. 'item').
- BOUND MORPHEME = a morpheme that cannot stand alone as an independent word, but must be attached to another morpheme/word (affixes, such as plural '-s', are always bound; roots are sometimes bound, e.g. the 'kep-' of 'kept' or the '-ceive' of 'receive'.

BASE = an element (free or bound, root morpheme or complex word) to which additional morphemes are added. Also called a stem. A base can consist of a single root morpheme, as with the 'kind' of 'kindness'. But a base can also be a word that itself contains more than one morpheme. For example, we can use the word 'kindness' as a base to form the word 'kindnesses'; to make 'kindnesses', we add the plural morpheme, spelled '-es' in this case, to the base 'kindness'.

ROOT = a (usually free) morpheme around which words can be built up through the addition of affixes. The root usually has a more-specific meaning than the affixes that attach to it. Ex.: The root 'kind' can have affixes added to it to form 'kindly', 'kindness', 'kinder', 'kindest'. The root is the item you have left when you strip all other morphemes off of a complex word. In the word dehumanizing, for example, if you strip off all the affixes -- -ing, -ize, and de-, human is what you have left. It cannot be divided further into meaningful parts. It is the root of the word.

AFFIX = a bound morpheme which attaches to a base (root or stem). PREFIXES attach to the front of a base; SUFFIXES to the end of a base; INFIXES are inserted inside of a root. An example of a prefix is the 're-' of 'rewrite'; of a suffix, '-al' of 'critical'.

• INFLECTION = the process by which affixes combine with roots to indicate basic grammatical categories such as tense or plurality (e.g. in 'cat-s', 'talk-ed', 's' an d'-ed' are inflectional suffixes). Inflection is viewed as the process of adding very general meanings to existing words, not as the creation of new words.

DERIVATION= the process by which affixes combine with roots to create new words (e.g. in 'modern-ize', 'read-er', '-ize' and '-er' are derivational suffixes). Derivation is viewed as using existing words to make new words. The inflection/derivation difference is increasingly viewed as shades of gray rather than an absolute boundary. Derivation is much less regular, and therefore much less predictable, than inflectional morphology. For example, we can predict that most English words will form their plural by adding the affix <-s> or <-es>. But how we derive nouns from verbs, for example, is less predictable. Why do we add <-al> to 'refuse', making 'refusal', but '-ment' to 'pay' to make 'payment'? 'Payal' and 'refusement' are not possible English words. We have to do more memorizing in learning derivational morphology than in learning inflectional morphology.

- CONTENT MORPHEME: A morpheme that has a relatively more-specific meaning than a function morpheme; a morpheme that names a concept/idea in our record of experience of the world. Content morphemes fall into the classes of noun, verb, adjective, adverb.
- FUNCTION MORPHEME: A morpheme that has a relatively less-specific meaning than a content morpheme; a morpheme whose primary meaning/function is to signal relationships between other morphemes. Function morphemes generally fall into classes such as articles ('a', 'the'), prepositions ('of', 'at'), auxiliary verbs ('was eating', 'have slept'), etc.
- SIMPLE WORD = a word consisting of a single morpheme; a word that cannot be analyzed into smaller meaningful parts, e.g. 'item', 'five', 'chunk', 'the'.
- COMPLEX WORD = a word consisting of a root plus one or more affixes (e.g. 'items', 'walked', 'dirty').
- COMPOUND WORD = a word that is formed from two or more simple or complex words (e.g. landlord, red-hot, window cleaner).
- MORPHOPHONEMICS/ALLOMORPHY = the study of the processes by which morphemes change their pronunciation in certain situations.

ALLOMORPHS = the different forms (pronunciations) of a single morpheme. Ex: the plural morpheme in English is $\{-z\}$. Its allomorphs are /s /, /z /, / @z /.** Also, the morpheme 'leaf' has two allomorphs: 'leaf' in words built from it (e.g.'leafy') and 'leav-', found only in the plural: 'leaves'.

** The 'at' sign (= @) is used in internet exchanges as a replacement for the schwa symbol (the upside-down, backwards <e>). This is because it is not yet possible to transmit IPA symbols over the net to people whose machines do not contain phonetic fonts. In this document, I'll use the @ to stand for schwa, since many of my readers do not possess a phonetic font on their machines.

English inflectional morphology

English has only three categories of meaning which are expressed inflectionally, known as inflectional categories. They are number in nouns, tense/aspect in verbs, and comparison in adjectives. Within these categories, English has a remarkably small inventory of affixes. English does not always use affixes to express these categories

Inflectional categories and affixes of English

Word class to which inflection applies Inflectional category Regular affix used to express category

Nouns Number -s, -es: book/books, bush/bushes

. Possessive -'s, -': the cat's tail, Charles' toe

Verbs 3rd person singular present -s, -es: it rains, Karen writes, the water sloshes

- . past tense -ed: paint/painted
- . perfect aspect -ed: paint/painted ('has painted) (past participle)

. progressive or continuous aspect -ing: fall/falling, write/writing (present participle)

Adjectives comparative (comparing two items) -er: tall/taller

. superlative (comparing +2 items) -est: tall/tallest

Regular and irregular inflectional morphology

Here are some ways English inflectional morphology is irregular:

Type of irregularity Noun plurals Verbs: past tense Verbs: past participle

Unusual suffix oxen, syllabi, antennae, taken, seen, fallen, eaten

Change of stem vowel foot/feet, mouse/mice run/ran, come/came, flee/fled, meet/met, fly/flew, stick/stuck, get/got, break/broke swim/swum, sing/sung

Change of stem vowel with unusual suffix brother/brethren/feel/felt, kneel/knelt write/written, do/done, break/broken, fly/flown

Change in base/stem form

(sometimes with unusual suffix) , send/sent, bend/bent, think/thought, teach/taught, buy/bought send/sent, bend/bent, think/thought, teach/taught, buy/bought

Zero-marking (no suffix, no stem change)

deer, sheep, moose, fish hit, beat hit, beat, come

More ways inflection can be irregular:

Suppletion (instead of a suffix, the whole word changes):

be - am - are - is - was - were - been

go - went - gone

good - better - best

bad - worse - worst

some - more - most

Syntactic marking (added meanings are indicated by a separate word rather than marking with a suffix or change to the base):

Future of verbs: will go, will eat, will fight, etc.

Comparative/superlative of adjectives: more intelligent, more expensive, etc.; most intelligent, most expensive, etc.

English derivational morphology

Below is a sample of some English derivational affixes. This is only a sample; there are far more affixes than presented here.

Some derivational affixes of English

Affix Class(es) of word to which affix applies Nature of change in meaning Examples:

Prefix 'non-' Noun, adjective Negation/opposite Noun: non-starter

Adj.: non-partisan

Suffix '-ity' Adjective Changes to noun electric/electricity

obese/obesity

Prefix 'un-' Verb

Adjective Reverses action

opposite quality tie/untie, fasten/unfasten

clear/unclear, safe/unsafe

Suffix '-ous' Noun Changes to adjective fame/famous, glamor/glamorous

Prefix 're-' Verb Repeat action tie/retie, write/rewrite

Suffix '-able'Verb Changes to adjective;

means 'can undergo action of verb'

print/printable, drink/drinkable

Word formation processes: Ways of creating new words in English

1. Affixation: adding a derivational affix to a word. Examples: abuser, refusal, untie, inspection, pre-cook.

- 2. Compounding: joining two or more words into one new word. Examples: skateboard, whitewash, cat lover, self-help, red-hot, etc.
- 3. Zero derivation: (also called conversion or functional shift): Adding no affixes; simply using a word of one category as a word of another category. Examples: Noun-verb: comb, sand, knife, butter, referee, proposition.
- 4. Stress shift: no affix is added to the base, but the stress is shifted from one syllable to the other. With the stress shift comes a change in category.

Noun Verb

cómbine combine

ímplant implánt

réwrite rewrite

tránsport transpórt

Noun Adjective

cóncrete concréte

ábstract abstráct

- 5. Clipping: shortening of a polysyllabic word. Examples: bro (< brother), pro (< professional), prof (< professor), math (< mathematics), veg (< 'vegetate', as in veg out in front of the TV), sub (< substitute or submarine).
- 6. Acronym formation: forming words from the initials of a group of words that designate one concept. Usually, but not always, capitalized. An acronym is pronounced as a word if the consonants and vowels line up in such a way as to make this possible, otherwise it is pronounced as a string of letter names. Examples: NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), scuba (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus), radar (radio detecting and ranging), NFL (National Football League), AFL-CIO (American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations).
- 7. Blending: Parts (which are not morphemes!) of two already-existing words are put together to form a new word. Examples: motel (motor hotel) brunch (breakfast & lunch), smog (smoke & fog), telethon (television & marathon), modem (modulator & demodulator), Spanglish (Spanish & English).
- 8. Backformation: A suffix identifiable from other words is cut off of a base which has previously not been a word; that base then is used as a root, and becomes a word through widespread use. Examples: pronunciate (< pronunciation < pronounce), resurrect (< resurrection), enthuse (< enthusiasm), self-destruct (< self-destruction < destroy), burgle (< burglar), attrit (< attrition), burger (< hamburger). This differs from clipping in that, in clipping, some phonological part of the word which is not interpretable as an affix or word is cut off (e.g. the '-essor' of 'professor' is not a suffix or word; nor is the '-ther' of 'brother'. In backformation, the bit chopped off is a recognizable affix or word ('ham ' in 'hamburger'), '-ion' in 'self-destruction'. Backformation is the result of a false but plausible morphological analysis of the word; clipping is a strictly phonological process that is used to make the word shorter. Clipping is based on syllable structure, not morphological analysis. It is impossible for you to recognize backformed words or come up with examples from your own

knowledge of English, unless you already know the history of the word. Most people do not know the history of the words they know; this is normal.

- 9. Adoption of brand names as common words: a brand name becomes the name for the item or process associated with the brand name. The word ceases to be capitalized and acts as a normal verb/noun (i.e. takes inflections such as plural or past tense). The companies using the names usually have copyrighted them and object to their use in public documents, so they should be avoided in formal writing (or a lawsuit could follow!) Examples: xerox, kleenex, band-aid, kitty litter.
- 10. Onomatopoeia (pronounced: 'onno-motto-pay-uh'): words are invented which (to native speakers at least) sound like the sound they name or the entity which produces the sound. Examples: hiss, sizzle, cuckoo, cock-a-doodle-doo, buzz, beep, ding-dong.
- 11. Borrowing: a word is taken from another language. It may be adapted to the borrowing language's phonological system to varying degrees. Examples: skunk, tomato (from indigenous languages of the Americas), sushi, taboo, wok (from Pacific Rim languages), chic, shmuck, macho, spaghetti, dirndl, psychology, telephone, physician, education (from European languages), hummus, chutzpah, cipher, artichoke (from Semitic languages), yam, tote, banana (from African languages).

Semantic features: the features that analyze the meaning characteristics of a word:

- 1. Minimal pairs: the two distinguished words which are the same in form but different in one phoneme in the same place. (eg. Meat vs. Seat)
- 2. Idiom: a string of words for which the meaning of the whole expression cannot be determined from the meaning of the individual morphemes that make up the string. (eg. To pull the wool over one- Idiom: an idiom is a string of words for which the meaning of the whole expression can not be determined

from the meaning of the individual morphemes that make up the string. (eg. To pull the wool over one's eyes: to deceive's eyes: to deceive)

- 3. Proverb: a string of words, used to give an advice by referring to a story happened in the past.
- 4. Metaphor: a metaphor is an expression in which literal meaning is not intended, and the literal meaning is completely nonsense. (Playful little lamb: nauty child)
- 5. Conceptional meaning: the meaning that carries the essential semantic characteristics of the existing word. (eg. tree : a plant)
- 6.Associative meaning: the meaning that carries some indirect features of the word.(eg. cotton : soft)
- 7.Lexical relation: the determination of the meaning of the words according to their relations with the other words in the sentence, and not directly according to their semantic features.(eg. A girl, named Rose, came in.)
- 8. Hyponymy: a feature in which the meaning of a word is part of the meaning of another word with a vaster area of meaning. (rose: flower, poodle: dog, cat: animal, carrot: vegetable, oak: tree, ant: insect)
- 9.Co-hyponymy: the share of two or more words in one syperordinate term. (ant: inset, eagle: bird,.....ant& eagle: animal)
- 10. Homophony: the feature in which two or more written words have a same pronunciation while their spellings differ. (eg. meat- meet, flour-flower, wherewere)
- 11. Homonymy: a feature in which a form or a word (both in written or spoken use) has two or more irrelated meanings. (bank: for river- bank for money, pupil: in relation to school-pupil: in relation to eyes)
- 12. Homography: the feature in which two words have a same spelling, but have different pronunciations and different meanings. (eg. wind/wInd/ & wind/waInd/)

- 13. Polysemy: a feature in which an individual word contains some related meanings as a result of meaning expansion. (head: part of the body, chief, bubbles on beer)
- 14. Monosemy: a feature in which the word refers to merely one meaning. (melon: a kind of fruit)
- 15. Linguistic context (co-text): the collection of the words used in a very same sentence; it helps to find out which meaning of the several meanings of a word is appreciated. (eg. co-text: He went to the bank for a loan.)
- 16. Synonymy: a feature in which two or more words have such close semantic relationships that can substitute each other in most sentences, ie they are usually intersubstitutable. eg. answer ~ reply
- 17. Antonymy: a feature in which two or more words have an opposite semantic relationship. Antonymy is itself subdivided into two categories: gradable, nongradable.

In gradeable antonymy the two words are not directly opposite because comparison is possible as there are grades between them.

eg . small VS big (smaller)

In nongradable antonymy - titled as complementary pairs - there are no grades between the antonyms; the negative form of one denotes the other one.

eg. male VS female

Allomorphy, or morphophonemic variation in English

Many morphemes of English have more than one way of being pronounced; this is often not reflected in the spelling of the morpheme. Such variations affect both affixes and roots. Sometimes the pronunciation varies because of nearby sounds; sometimes there is no logic to it — its motivation lies in forgotten history.

The pronunciation variants of a morpheme are called allomorphs. The phenomenon of variation in the pronunciation of a morpheme is called allomorphic variation or morphophonemic variation (since it is the phonemic makeup of a morpheme that is varying). The variations themselves are sometimes called morphophonological . processes.

The English past-tense morpheme has three allomorphs: /@d/, /t/, and /d/. (Remember, /@/ is being used to stand for schwa.)

Morpheme: Past tense '-d'/'-ed'

Allomorphs: /@d/, /t/, /d/

Distribution: /@d/ after /t/ and /d/, /t/ after other voiceless consonants, /d/

after other voiced Cs and vowels

Motivation: Phonological. /d/ occurs after vowels and voiced consonants other than /d/; /t/ occurs after voiceless consonants other than /t/; and /@d/ occurs after the alveolar stops /t/ and /d/.

/@d/ after /t/ and /d/ /t/ after other voiceless consonants /d/ after other voiced Cs and vowels

faded, stated, petted, soundedkissed, leaped, fluffed, stockedbuzzed, played, mooned, sued

Unmotivated allomorphy: A change in the pronunciation of a morpheme that is not based on the phonological surroundings. Most of these simply must be memorized:

• 'Electric' usually has final /k/; but has final /s/ in 'electricity'. The morpheme 'electric' has two allomorphs: 'electri/k/' and 'electri/s/-'; the second occurs only when the suffix -ity' is attached to the word.

• Words such as 'life', 'shelf', 'leaf' have a final /f/ in most forms, but when they are pluralized, the base has a final /v/: 'lives', 'shelves', 'leaves'. Thus these words have two allomorphs: one final in /f/ in the singular ('life', 'shelf', 'leaf') and one final in /v/, which occurs only when the plural suffix is added: 'live-', 'shelv-', 'leav-'. Notice that not all words that end in /f/ undergo this change: the plural of the noun 'proof' is not 'prooves'. Dialects differ in how they pluralize words such as 'roof', 'hoof'; some people say 'roofs' while others say 'rooves'; some say 'hoofs' and others 'hooves'. The plural of 'loaf' is 'loaves', but the plural of 'oaf' is not 'oaves' but 'oafs'. A learner of English has to memorize which words change from /f/ to /v/ and which don't.