

Compounds

- synthetic compounds: truck-driver
- Exocentric, or bahuvrihi (Sanskrit ‘having much rice’): walkman, pickpocket
- phrases allowed in compounds? “barely used car salesman?” “no phrase constraint” “car-of-the-month competition”
- *rats-eater vs. mice-eater

Non-Concatenative Word Formation

Ling 114

Not Just Beads on a String

- So far we have looked at *concatenative* morphology: prefixation and suffixation add new the new morpheme to the *edge* (beginning or end of stem)
- Today we will discuss *nonconcatenative* morphology: processes of word formation that aren’t simply “adding a new bead to the string” to form a new meaning

Infixation

- Infixation is a process of inserting a new morpheme *inside* a stem, in a particular position.
- We don’t have as much of this in English, but one well-known example is *expletive infixation*:
 - Fan-frickin’-tastic
 - Ling-frickin-guistics
 - Ala-bloody-bama
- Where does the infix go?

More Infixation

- Ulwa, spoken in Nicaragua:
 - *bás* ‘hair’ *bás-ka* ‘his hair’
 - *ásna* ‘clothes’ *ás-ka-na* ‘his clothes’
 - *arákbus* ‘gun’ *arák-ka-bus* ‘his gun’
- Laotian Katu: *katas* ‘to name’ *kartas* ‘name’; *kachet* ‘to kill’ *karchet* ‘dead’; *aloom* ‘to give’; *arloom* ‘gifts’
- What derivational meaning do the infixes add?

Circumfixation

- German: **ge-wander-t** (wander (past tense))
- Hebrew: **ti-xtev-i** (you (fem) will write)
- Chuckchee adjective stems are bound morphemes (like **-ept**, **-peccable**) that must combine with circumfixes:
 - **ne-ten-qin** nelgen (good skin)
 - English: **en-light-en**
- A prefix and suffix make up the meaning: it’s a “discontinuous” morpheme

Subtractive Morphology

- Russian equivalent of *-er* for scientific professions:
- *Biologijia* (biology) -> *biolog* (biologist)
- *Agronomija* (agronomy) -> *agronom* (agronomist)
- Nicknames in English express affection/familiarity: *Drew, Sue, Fred*

Ablaut/Consonant Mutation

- Change in the vowels accompanying morphological derivation: *sing-sang-sung, write-wrote, take-took, goose-geese*
- **Can you think of other examples?**
- Change in the consonants: *house-(to) houze, shelf, (to) shelve, mouth, (to) mouð*
- Also in DhoLuo: *kede* (twig), *kete* (twigs); *buk* (book), *buge* (books)
- **This change involves the value of a single feature of a single phoneme**

Metathesis: Switching the order of phonemes

Like *aks* for *ask*, except morphological:

- In the language Saanich (Canada)
- *t'se* (breaks something) **BUT:**
- *t'es* (broke something)
- *q'k'we* (straightens something) **BUT:**
- *q'ek'w* (straightened something)

See why the morpheme concept is more abstract?

- What do we point to as the past tense morpheme in *sang*?
- What do we point to as the 'derivative'/'pejorative' morpheme in *science center, shmience center*
- What would be the most efficient way to store these forms? As a whole, or by rule?
- When the derived form is predictable...

Reduplication: A Copycat Affix

- Reduplication is a process of adding an affix that contains some of the same material that's already in the stem.
- An Example from English is *shm*-reduplication:
 - **Fancy-shmancy**
 - **Morphology, shmorphology**
 - **The 2nd item's realization depends on the 1st**

Consonantal Roots and Vowel Melodies

- In Arabic, there is a three-consonant *root* that expresses the basic meaning of a stem (the way that *-dict-* means 'say' in *predict, contradict, dictionary*).
- All inflectional morphology is infixing..
- We will illustrate this with the root *k.t.b*, which means 'write'

Examples of Vowel Melodies

- *Katab*: has written (perfective, active)
- *Kutib*: has been written (perfective, passive)
- *Aktub*: was writing (progressive, active)
- *Uktab*: was being written (progressive, passive)
- **In all of these cases, the “bound morpheme” is itself discontinuous!**

Zero Derivation (=“Conversion”)

- Conversion is a change in category that happens without any *overt* affix - a kind of “invisible” derivational morphology.
- The meaning is changed without affix or process
- It’s there in the plural of *sheep*
- ***How do we know a zero is there?***

Evidence for Zero Morphemes

- The past tense of the verb *ring* (like a phone) is *rang* - an irregular past tense rule.
- But when we make a verb out of the noun *ring* (as in “Let’s ring the Christmas tree with lights”), the past tense is *ringed*.
- The verb *ring* (to form a ring around something) is really $ring_N^{+\phi} V$.
- The irregular rule only won’t apply!

Denominal Verbs (from Noun to Verb)

- *Ink a contract*
- *Butter the bread*
- *Saddle the horse*
- *Ship the package*
- *Nail the door shut*
- *Google me*
- **This is a very productive process**

Deverbal Nouns (from verb to noun)

- A nice *hook-up*
- A long *swim*
- A good *read*

Deadjectival Verbs (from adjective to verb)

- *Empty a box*
- *Dirty a shirt*
- *Better yourself*
- *Right their wrongs*
- *Total a car ?*

Changes in Stress and Tone

- Zero affixes can sometimes trigger tone or stress changes. English pairs like *implant*, *subject*, *contest*
- Mono-Bili examples:
- *Dá* = spanked; *Dà* = will spank
- *Zí* = ate; *Zì* = will eat
- *Wó* = killed; *wò* = will kill

Structure and interpretation: No wonder linguists keep busy!

- Explaining the precise rules that predict changes in **form** (*where or how a nonconcatenative process will change the shape/sound of a word*) and **meaning** (*tough enough even for prefixes like re-, as we've seen*) is the job of morphologists
- In the remaining time, we'll look more in-depth at some of the processes already discussed...

Rewind: Total Reduplication

- Turkish: *gyzel*: beautifully *gyzel-gyzel* very beautifully. *Iji*: well *iji iji*: very well
- Indonesian: *anak* child *anak anak* all kinds of children. *Manga* mango *manga manga* all kinds of mangoes
- Chinese: *tian day* *tiantian* every day
- Latin *quis* 'who' *quisquis* 'whoever'
- English: *I live in Boston-Boston*, not *Cambridge*
- **Total reduplication is extremely common among languages, though its meaning differs!**

Partial Reduplication

- Indonesian: *takbuh* run *taktakbuh* will run
Pili? Choose *Pipili?* 'will choose'
Tohono O'odham: *daikud* chair *dadaikud*
chairs *gogs* dog *gogogs* dogs
- There is no single morpheme that indicates plurality**

Fixed Segment Reduplication

- Turkish: *kitab-mitap*: books & so on
- Hindi: *paani-vaani* "water & so on"
- *aam-vaam* "mangoes, etc"
- *Harvard varvard* "Harvard & places like that"
- But: when the original starts with /v/, the pattern changes:
- *vakil-Shakil* "lawyers and so on"
- *Vajpayee-Shajpayee* "Vajpayee and his crew"
- **This is a kind of allomorphy!**