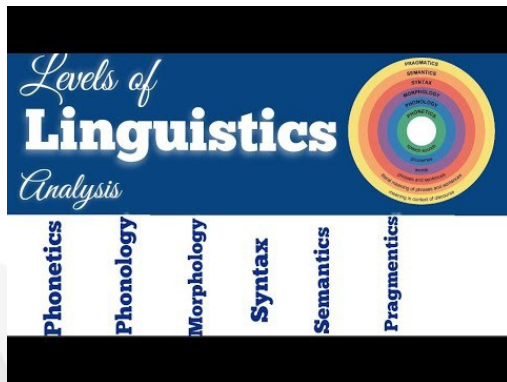# Linguistics

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17 March 2025

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Objectives

This course, "Linguistics", aims to:

- *Define* the different linguistic levels of analysis.
- *List* key tools (e.g., IPA, tree diagrams) and techniques used in linguistic analysis.
- *Explain* the nature and structure of human language using linguistic terminology.
- *Explaining* how linguistic features vary by context
- *Apply* the rules of levels of analysis in language.

I   Chapter 2 : Morphology

1. Objectives

By the end of this chapter, students should be able to:

- *Describe* the concept of morphology and its role in word formation.

- *Identify* basic stems and affixes in given words.
- *Classify* morphemes into free, bound, derivational, and inflectional types.

- *Explain* the processes by which new words are formed.

- *Distinguish* between morphological processes.

- *Construct* new words using various morphological rules.

- *Analyze* complex words to break them down into morphemes.

2. Introduction

🔑 *Definition*

Morphology[*] is the study of how words are built from smaller units called morphemes, which are the smallest meaningful parts of a word. It examines how words are constructed from these smallest meaningful units.

Morphology

💡 *Fundamental*

Morphemes carry meaning or grammatical function and cannot be divided into smaller meaningful parts. Morphology analyzes how these units combine to form words and how they interact with other linguistic elements, such as syntax and phonology.
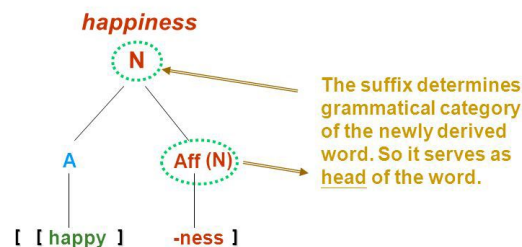
🔍 *Example*

- Example of morphemes: un- (prefix), happy (root), -ness (suffix) in the word unhappiness.

- Example of interaction with syntax: How morphological markers (e.g., verb endings) indicate grammatical roles in a sentence.

Review: Word structure of derived words

happiness

Affixation is ordered

happiness

N

A   Aff (N)

The suffix determines grammatical category of the newly derived word. So it serves as head of the word.

[[happy]   -ness]

the structure of 'happiness'

🔔 *Reminder*

To avoid confusion between phonetics, phonology, and morphology, remember:

- *Phonetics*: The study of the physical production and perception of speech sounds (e.g., how the sound /p/ is produced).

- *Phonology*: The study of how sounds function within a particular language or languages (e.g., the rules for how /p/ and /b/ contrast in English).

- *Morphology*: The study of how words are built from morphemes4[*], the smallest units of meaning (e.g., how un-, happy, and -ness combine to form unhappiness).

While phonetics and phonology focus on sounds, morphology focuses on meaningful units (morphemes) and how they form words.

3. Classifications of Morphemes

3.1. Free Morphemes

🔍 *Definition*

These[*] are morphemes that can stand alone as independent words and carry meaning on their own.

🔎 *Example*

In the word "book," the morpheme book is a free morpheme because it is a complete word with its own meaning.

💡 *Fundamental*

Free morphemes can be further divided into two categories:

- *Lexical morphemes*: These are content words that carry concrete meaning, such as nouns (e.g., dog), verbs (e.g., run), adjectives (e.g., happy), and adverbs (e.g., quickly).

- *Functional morphemes*: These are function words that serve grammatical purposes, such as conjunctions (e.g., and), prepositions (e.g., in), articles (e.g., the), and pronouns (e.g., she).

🔎 *Example*

- *Lexical morphemes*: nouns (dog), verbs (run), adjectives (happy), and adverbs (quickly).

- *Functional morphemes*: conjunctions (and), prepositions (in), articles (the), and pronouns (she).

3.2. Bound Morphemes

🔍 *Definition*

These are morphemes that cannot stand alone as independent words and must be attached to free morphemes to convey meaning. Bound morphemes include prefixes, suffixes, infixes, and circumfixes.

🔎 *Example*

In the word unhappiness, the prefix un- and the suffix -ness are bound morphemes because they cannot function independently.

💡 *Fundamental*

Bound morphemes can also be categorized into:

- *Derivational morphemes*: These change the meaning or part of speech of a word.
- *Inflectional morphemes*: These modify a word's grammatical function without changing its core meaning[***].

🔎 *Example*

- Derivational morphemes: adding -er to teach creates teacher, changing the verb into a noun.

- Inflectional morphemes: adding -s to cat creates cats, indicating plurality.

4. Morphological Rules

🔍 *Definition*

Morphological rules are the systematic principles that govern how morphemes (the smallest units of meaning) combine to form words. These rules dictate the structure, meaning, and grammatical function of words by specifying how free and bound morphemes can be arranged and modified.

See "Morphological Rules"

💡 *Fundamental*

Morphological rules5[*] are language-specific and include:

1. ***Derivational Rules***[*]: Adding prefixes or suffixes to change a word's meaning or part of speech (e.g., happy → unhappy).
2. ***Inflectional Rules***[*]: Modifying words to express grammatical categories like tense, number, or case (e.g., walk → walked).
3. ***Compounding Rules***: Combining two or more free morphemes to create a new word (e.g., sun + flower → sunflower).
4. ***Reduplication Rules***: Repeating all or part of a word to convey meaning (e.g., in Tagalog, bili → bibili).
5. ***Suppletion***: Using entirely different forms for grammatical relationships (e.g., go → went).

🔎 *Example*

1. Derivational Rules: happy → unhappy.
2. Inflectional Rules: walk → walked.
3. Compounding Rules: sun + flower → sunflower.
4. Reduplication Rules: in Tagalog, bili → bibili.
5. Suppletion: go → went.

# 5. Word Formation Processes

🔍 *Definition*

Word formation processes6[*], on the other hand, refer to the specific methods or strategies used to create new words in a language. These processes apply morphological rules to generate new vocabulary and adapt to the communicative needs of speakers.

💡 *Fundamental*

Common word formation processes[*] include:

1. ***Derivation***: Adding affixes to a base word to create a new word.

2. *Compounding*: Combining two or more words to form a new word.

3. *Conversion*[*]: Changing a word's part of speech without altering its form.

4. *Blending*: Merging parts of two words to create a new word.

5. *Clipping*: Shortening a word.

6. *Borrowing*: Adopting words from other languages.

7. *Coinage*[*]: Creating entirely new words, often for brand names or technological terms.
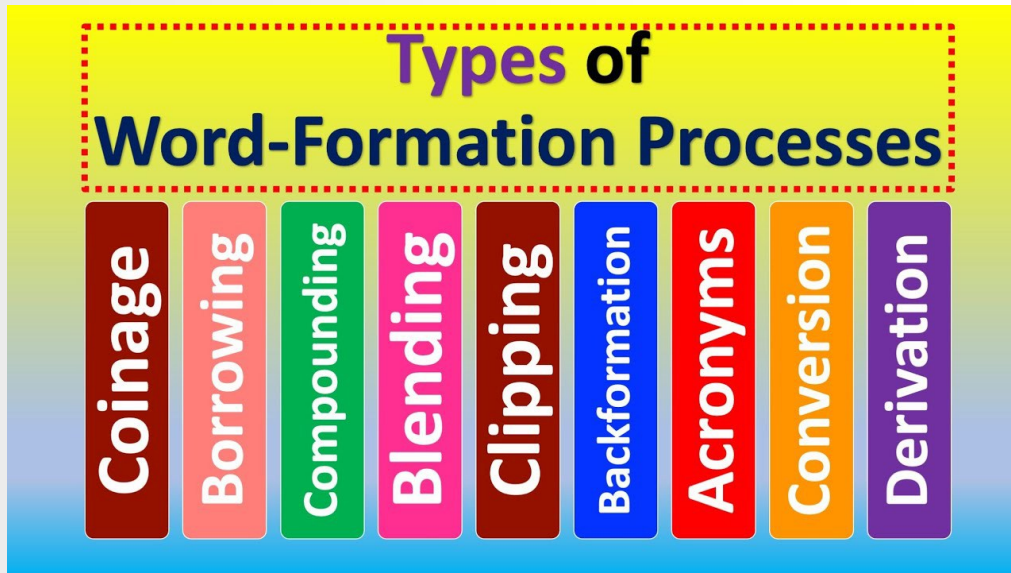
Types of word formation

🔍 *Example*

1. teach → teacher (Derivation).

2. book + shelf → bookshelf (Compounding).

3. email [noun] → email [verb] (Conversion).

4. brunch from breakfast + lunch (Blending).

5. advertisement → ad (Clipping).

6. sushi from Japanese (Borrowing).

7. Google (Coinage).

[cf. Introduction to Morphology]

Glossary

Coinage

Coinage refers to the creation of entirely new words or terms, often to name new inventions, concepts, or phenomena. These words are typically introduced into a language and may become widely accepted over time. Coinage can occur through various processes, such as brand naming, technological innovation, or cultural trends.

Conversion

Conversion (also called zero derivation or functional shift) is a word-formation process in which a word changes its grammatical category (e.g., noun to verb, verb to noun) without any change in form. This means the word remains the same in spelling and pronunciation but takes on a new meaning and function in a sentence.

Derivational rules

Derivational rules are rules in morphology that govern how new words are formed from existing words or roots by adding derivational morphemes (prefixes, suffixes, or infixes). These rules change the meaning of the original word and often alter its grammatical category (e.g., turning a noun into a verb or an adjective into a noun).

Inflectional rules

Inflectional rules are rules in morphology that govern how words are modified to express grammatical information, such as tense, number, gender, case, or person. Unlike derivational rules, which create new words, inflectional rules modify existing words to fit the grammatical context of a sentence without changing their core meaning or grammatical category.

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Types of word formation

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