LNGT0101
Introduction to Linguistics

Lingu-ist-ic-s
[lĭŋ-gʷĭ-stĭks]
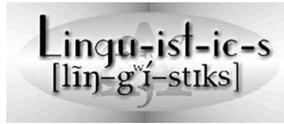
Lecture #10
Oct 12th, 2011

Announcements

- HW3 will be posted later this evening. It'll be due Thursday Oct 20th at 12noon.
- I will post your scores on HW2 by some time tomorrow.

Today's agenda

- Discuss some morphology problems.
- Processes of word formation: How do we add words to the lexicon of our language?
- Morphological typology: How do languages differ morphologically?

The past tense morpheme in English: [t], [d], or [əd]

a)	walked	/wɔkt/	l)	heaved	/hivd/
b)	cracked	/kɹækt/	m)	wheezed	/wizd/
c)	flipped	/flɪpt/	n)	fined	/fajnd/
d)	hissed	/hɪst/	o)	flitted	/flɪtəd/
e)	huffed	/hʌft/	p)	butted	/bʌtəd/
f)	hushed	/hʌʃt/	q)	padded	/pædəd/
g)	munched	/mʌntʃt/	r)	loaded	/lodəd/
h)	drubbed	/dɹʌbd/	s)	collided	/kəlajdəd/
i)	dragged	/dɹægd/	t)	allowed	/əlawd/
j)	jogged	/dʒɑgd/	u)	sowed	/sod/
k)	fudged	/fʌdʒd/			

Swedish

en lampa	"a lamp"	en bil	"a car"
en stol	"a chair"	en soffa	"a sofa"
en tidning	"a newspaper"	en katt	"a cat"
lampor	"lamps"	bilar	"cars"
stolar	"chairs"	soffor	"sofas"
tidningar	"newspapers"	kattar	"cats"
lampan	"the lamp"	bilen	"the car"
stolen	"the chair"	soffan	"the sofa"
tidningaren	"the newspaper"	katten	"the cat"
lamporna	"the lamps"	bilarna	"the cars"
stolarna	"the chairs"	sofforna	"the sofas"
tidningarna	"the newspapers"	kattarna	"the cats"

Cebuano

7. Here are some nouns from the Philippine language Cebuano.

sibwano	"a Cebuano"	binisaja	"the Visayan language"
ilokano	"an Ilocano"	ininglis	"the English language"
tagalog	"a Tagalog person"	tinagalog	"the Tagalog language"
inglis	"an Englishman"	inilokano	"the Ilocano language"
bisaja	"a Visayan"	sinibwano	"the Cebuano language"

a. What is the exact rule for deriving language names from ethnic group names?
b. What type of affixation is represented here?
c. If *suwid* meant "a Swede" and *italo* meant "an Italian," what would be the words for the Swedish language and the Italian language?
d. If *finuranso* meant "the French language" and *inunagari* meant "the Hungarian language," what would be the words for a Frenchman and a Hungarian?

Turkish

17. Following is a list of words from Turkish. In Turkish, articles and morphemes indicating location are affixed to the noun.

deniz	"an ocean"	evden	"from a house"
denize	"to an ocean"	evimden	"from my house"
denizin	"of an ocean"	denizimde	"in my ocean"
eve	"to a house"	elde	"in a hand"

a. What is the Turkish morpheme meaning "to"?
b. What kind of affixes in Turkish corresponds to English prepositions (e.g., prefixes, suffixes, infixes, free morphemes)?
c. What would the Turkish word for "from an ocean" be?
d. How many morphemes are there in the Turkish word *denizimde*?

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Processes of word-formation
(enriching the Lexicon)

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Processes of word-formation

- There are systematic word-formation processes that take place across human languages.
- Depending on the language, some of these processes may or may not be available. But the result is the same: New words are always created and added to the dictionary of the language.

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Derivation

- The most productive process of word formation in a language is the use of *derivational* morphemes to form new words from already existing forms, as we discussed last class:

    govern → government → governmental → non-governmental

- There are two classes of derivational affixes in English based on whether or not they trigger phonological effects, as on the handout.

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Word coinage

- Word coinage happens when a name of a product acquires a general meaning and gets used to refer to anything that has the same function of the original product:

    kleenex, kodak, nylon, Dacron

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Conversion:
Have you folks been *menued* yet?

- **Conversion** (aka **zero derivation**) is the extension of the use of one word from its original grammatical category to another category as well.
- For example, the word *must* is a verb (e.g. "You must attend classes regularly"), but it can also be used as a noun as in "Class attendance is a must".
- Same applies to "vacation", a noun that can also be used as a verb, and "major", an adjective that can be used as a noun and a verb.

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Borrowing

- New words also enter a language through borrowing from other languages.
- Here are some examples of foreign words that found their way into English:

  leak, *yacht*　　　　　　(from Dutch)

  barbecue, *cockroach*　　　(from Spanish)

  piano, *concerto*　　　　　(from Italian)

- LINK

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Loan translations

- Related to borrowings are *loan translations*, where a new word or expression is created via translation of a foreign term, rather than actual borrowing of the term in the language, e.g.,

  marriage of convenience (from French *mariage de convenance*)

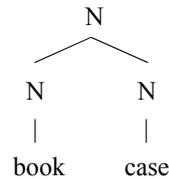 *perros calientes*　　(from English *hot dogs*)

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Compounding

- New words are also created through the common process of compounding, i.e. combining two or more words together to form a new complex word. Here are some examples of compounding:

  post + card ➔　*postcard*

  post + office ➔　*post office*

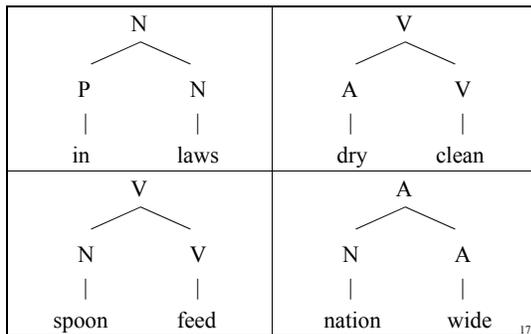 *book + case* ➔　*bookcase*

  sister + in + law ➔ *sister-in-law*

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Compounding

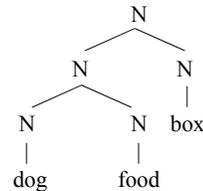- Like word structure, the internal structure of a compound can be represented using trees:

```
           N
          / \
         N   N
         |   |
       book case
```

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Structure of compounds

N	V
P N | | in laws	A V | | dry clean
V	**A**
N V | | spoon feed	N A | | nation wide

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Structure of compounds

- We can also use trees to represent the internal structure of cases of multiple compounding such as *dog food box*:

```
              N
             / \
            N   N
           / \  |
          N  N  box
          |  |
        dog food
```

- This is John's first book review. So, whose book is it?

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German compounding

- German:

(10)

Compound	Meaning	Meanings of Individual Morphemes
Muttersprache	'native language'	< mother language
Schreibtisch	'desk'	< write table
stehenbleiben	'stand (still)'	< stand remain
Wunderkind	'child prodigy'	< miracle child
Parkzeitüberschreitung	'exceeding of the amount of time one is allowed to park'	< park time exceedance

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Properties of English compounds

- Stress placement:
    '*greenhouse* vs. *green* '*house*
    '*blackboard* vs. *black* '*board*
- Modification by "very":
    We live next to a very green house.
    *We live next to a very greenhouse.
- Inflectional morphemes are added to the compound as a whole:
    drop kick → drop kicked, *dropped kick
    bear hunter → bear hunters, *bears hunter

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Endocentric vs. exocentric compounds

- Semantically, compounds can be divided into two types:
    A. **Endocentric compounds**, which denote a subtype of the concept denoted by the rightmost component of the compound, e.g,,
        dog food is a type of food
        sky blue is a type of blue
    B. In **exocentric compounds**, by contrast, the meaning of the compound does not follow from the meanings of its parts, e.g.,
        redneck is not a type of neck
        redhead is not a type of head.

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Endocentric vs. exocentric compounds

- Observe the plurals:

Singular		Plural
club foot	→	
Bigfoot	→	
policeman	→	
Walkman	→	

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Acronyms

- Acronyms are words created from the initial letters of several words. Typical examples are NATO, FBI, CIA, UN, UNICEF, FAQ, WYSIWYG, *radar*, *laser*.
- Sometimes acronyms are actually created first to match a word that already exists in the language, e.g., MADD (Mothers against Drunk Drivers).

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Back-formation

- Back-formation of words results when a word is formed from another word by taking off what looks like a typical affix in the language.
- This was the case with the verb *edit*, which entered English as a back-formation from *editor.*
- Same applies to the pairs *television-televise, self-destruction-self-destruct, donation-donate.*

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Clipping

- Another process of word-formation is clipping, which is the shortening of a longer word. Clipping in English gave rise to words such as *fax* from *facsimile*, *gym* from *gymnasium*, and *lab* from *laboratory*.

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Blending

- Blending is another way of combining two words to form a new word. The difference between blending and compounding, however, is that in blending only parts of the words, not the whole words, are combined. Here's a couple of examples:

  smoke + fog → *smog*

  motor + hotel → *motel*

  information + commercial → *infomercial*

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Eponyms

- Eponyms are words derived from proper names, e.g., "sandwich" from the Earl of Sandwich; "lynch" after William Lynch.
- LINK

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Morphological typology

How do languages differ in their word structure?

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Synthesis: How many morphemes does your language have per word?

- One aspect of morphological variation has to do with *synthesis*: Some languages may choose to "stack" morphemes on top of one another within words; others may elect to use at most one morpheme per word, and many others will fall somewhere between these two extremes.
- Let us start by comparing Yay to Oneida (examples from Whaley 1997:127):

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Synthesis: How many morphemes does your language have per word?

Yay:
  a. mi ran tua ŋwa lew
      not see CLASS snake CMPLT
      "He did not see the snake."

Oneida:
  b. yo-nuhs-a-tho:lé:
      3NEUT.PAT-room-epenthetic-be.cold.STAT
      "The room is cold."

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Morphological typology: Index of synthesis

- On the so-called *index of synthesis* for morphological typology (Comrie 1989), understood as a continuum, Yay is considered an *isolating* language, whereas Oneida would be closer to the *synthetic* end of the scale, with English closer to the Yay-end than to the Oneida-end:

Isolating <-x-------x--------------------x--->Synthetic
          Yay   English   Oneida

Morphological typology: Index of synthesis

- Some languages take synthesis to the extreme, though, marking all grammatical relationships on the verb with extensive affixation, thereby creating *long and complex words* that would correspond to whole sentences in languages like English, as the case is in Tiwa (example from Whaley 1997:131):

  men-mukhin-tuwi-ban

  Dual-hat-buy-PAST

  "You two bought a hat."

Morphological typology: Index of synthesis

- Or Eskimo:

  iglu-kpi-yuma-laak-tu-ŋa

  house-build-intend-anxious-reflexive-I
  "I'm anxious to build a house."

- Or Mohawk (from Baker 2001:88) :

  Katerihwaiénstha'

  "I am a student. [Literally: I habitually cause myself to have ideas.]"

Morphological typology: Index of synthesis

- Or Mohawk again, though rather more ridiculously:

  Washakotya'tawitsheraherkvhta'se'

  "He made the thing that one puts on one's body (i.e., the dress) ugly for her."

- We call languages like Tiwa, Eskimo, and Mohawk, *polysynthetic* languages.

Morphological typology: Index of fusion
One-to-one or one-to-many?

- Synthetic languages, in turn, differ in whether morphemes are easily segmentable or not. Consider this paradigm from Michoacan Nahuatl, for example:

no-kali	"my house"	no-pelo	"my dog"
no-kali-mes	"my houses"	mo-pelo	"your dog"
mo-kali	"your house"	mo-pelo-mes	"your dogs"
i-kali	"his house"	i-pelo	"his dog"

Morphological typology: Index of fusion

- But now compare with Ancient Greek:

  lu-ō   "1sg.Pres.Active.Indicative (I am releasing)"

  lu-ōmai "1sg.Pres.Active.Subjunctive (I should release)"

  lu-omai "1sg.Pres.Passive.Indicative (I am being released)"

  lu-oimi "1sg.Pres.Active.Optative (I might release)"

  lu-etai   "3sg.Pres.Active.Indicative (He is being released)"

Morphological typology: Index of fusion

- On the so-called *index of fusion* for morphological typology, also conceived of as a continuum, Michoacan Nahuatl is considered an ***agglutinative*** language, whereas Ancient Greek would be closer to the ***fusional*** end of the scale:

Agglutinative <---x-------------------------------x-->Fusional

            Nahuatl   Greek

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Next class agenda

- More on morphological typology.
- Syntax: Chapter 4 of the textbook, pp. 117-148.

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Abbreviations used on the slides

- CLASS = classifier
- CMPLT = complete
- NEUT = neuter
- PAT = patient
- STAT = stative

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References

- Baker, M. 2001. *The atoms of language*. New York: Basic Books.
- Comrie, Bernard. 1989.*Language universals and linguistic typology*. 2nd edition. Chicago: University of Chicago.
- Whaley, L. 1997. *Introduction to typology: The unity and diversity of language*. Sage Publications.

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