

LING 201: Introduction to Linguistics

EMU
Fall 2011
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Agenda

- What is morphology?
- Basic questions of morphology.
- Morphemes and internal structure of words.
- Some useful vocabulary: parts of speech.
- Types of morphemes.
- Types of word formation.
- Non-regular word-formation.

Word

- What is a word?
- How many words do you know?
- How many words are there?
- What do we know, when we know a word?

Word

- Pronunciation
- Lexical structure: read - reads
- Syntactic information: reads vs. readable
- Semantic properties: brother - male sibling
- Pragmatics: Oh brother!

Lexical entries

bake (bāk) *v.* **baked**, **bak·ing**. **1.** to cook, esp. in an oven, with dry heat. **2.** to harden and dry in or as if in an oven <*bake* pottery> —*n.* A social gathering at which baked food is served. —**bak'er** *n.*

- Missing information: baker (n)
 - baker = active part, someone who bakes, not the result of baking
 - not encoded information
- Form relations not encoded: [verb]+er
- Finiteness of dictionaries and new words: gorker

Meaning of words

- Former meanings:
 - deer = animal
 - German: Tier = animal
- Now: particular species in English

Meaning of words

- Use of: *bonnet*
- American English: type of hat
- British: type of hat and hood of a car

Example

- reader:
 - 1) phonetic and phonological information: /'ri:d/ (Br.E.) or /'ri:dr/ (Am.E.)
 - 2) morphological information: read + er
 - 3) syntactic information: N_{count}
 - 4) semantic-pragmatic information: a) 'one who reads'; b) 'a book intended to give students practice in readings'; c) 'senior university teacher in Great Britain'; d) 'a person employed to read'; how senses a) – d) are used in different contexts of speech.

What is morphology?

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- Morphology
 - the study of the internal structure of words.

Basic questions of morphology

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- What are words?

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- What are the building blocks in complex words?
- What are the generalizations concerning combining morphemes?
- How are words related within one language?
- How are new words created?

What are words?

- Intuitive but not clear-cut
- Problems with ‘hearing’ word boundaries in foreign languages.
- English ‘orange’ versus Spanish ‘naranja’
- Modern English:
 - *an adder, an orange, an apron*
- Old English:
 - *A nadder, a norange, a napron*
- Word - no good definition.

Relation between Words and their Reference?

- Word: *brother*
- Is the particular form of the word related to what it refers to?
- Compare to French or Japanese: *frère* or *otooto*
- (Also compare Slavic *brat*, German *Bruder*)
- The choice of the form for a specific meaning is arbitrary.

Arbitrary pairing of sound and meaning

- What about onomatopoeia?
 - meow, bow-wow, splash, bang, hoot, crash
 - wau-wau (wan-wan), piu-piu - za-za
- These might be related, but this is not the case for the majority of form-meaning pairs/words.

Example

- KiSwahili:
 - *kipilefti* - roundabout
 - Plural prefix in: *vi-*
 - Singular prefix: *ki-*
 - What is the plural form?

Internal structure of words

Internal structure of words

- boy boys

Internal structure of words

- boy boys
- rake rakes

Internal structure of words

- boy boys
- rake rakes
- dog dogs

Internal structure of words

- boy boys
- rake rakes
- dog dogs
- bush bushes

Internal structure of words

- boy boys
- rake rakes
- dog dogs
- bush bushes
- **Simple** versus **complex** words

Internal structure of words

Internal structure of words

- independent
 - in+depend+ent

Internal structure of words

- independent
 - in+depend+ent
- More examples?

Morphemes

- Morpheme - minimal meaningful unit.
 - *boy* vs. *boy* + *s*
- BUT:
 - conceive, deceive, perceive
 - con+ceive, de+ceive, per+ceive
- Morpheme - minimal unit of word formation, encoding meaning.

Types of morphemes

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- play, small, dog versus -ed, -est, -s

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- un-, in-, de- are **prefixes.**
- Generally: prefixes and suffixes are **affixes**

Types of morphemes

- Any other types of affixes?
- **Infixes in Bonto Igoro: -in-: kayu (wood) - kinayu (gathered wood)**
- Circumfixes
 - (German???)

Transfixes

- In Arabic:
 - root: k-t-b (to write)
 - *kiteb*: he wrote (-i-e-)
 - *kitbu*: they wrote (-i--u)
 - *ktieb*: book (--ie-)
 - *kotba*: books (-o--a)

Types of morphemes

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- *Blueberries, blackberries, cranberries.*

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- *Blueberries, blackberries, cranberries.*
- *Blue+berries, black+berries, cran+berries*
 - ‘Blue’, ‘black’ can appear on their own, what about ‘cran’?
 - ‘cran’ is an example of a bound base (it’s not an affix but it cannot appear on its own.)

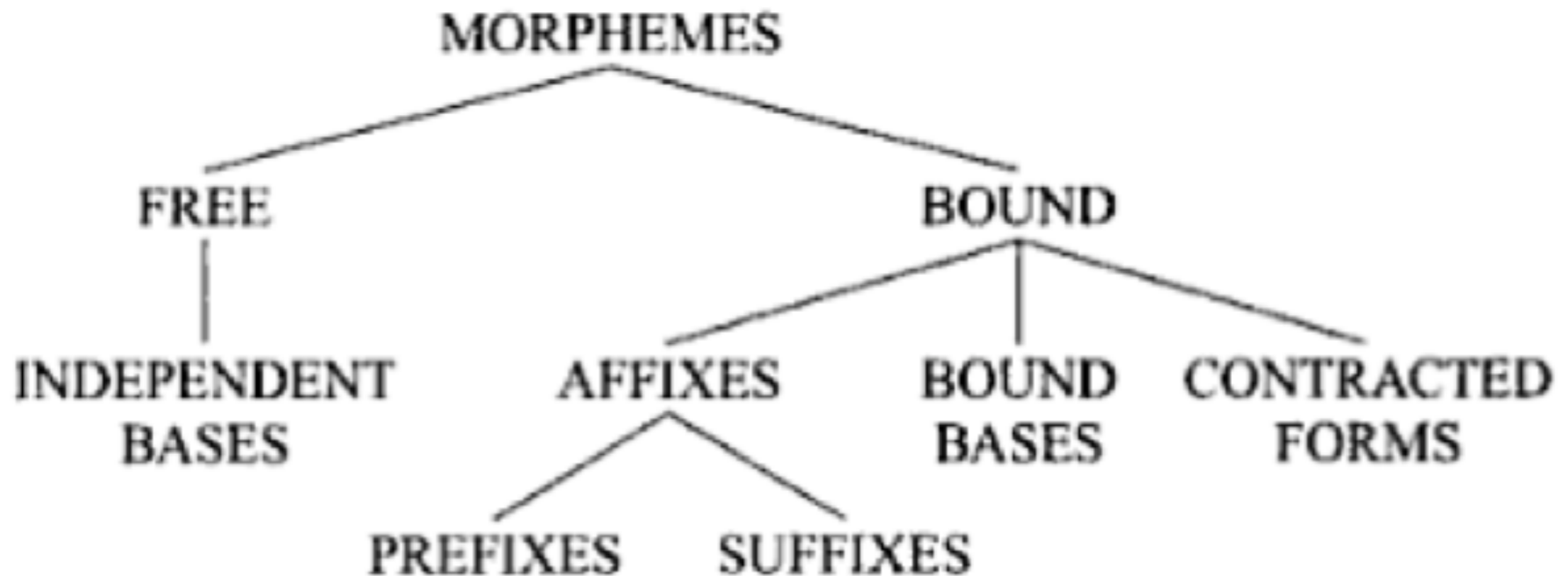
English Contracted Forms

- Example:
 - They will go.
 - They'll go.
 - Not: 'll they go.
- 's, 've, 'd
- What morphemes can be contracted in English?

What about...

- The possessive marker “s” in English?
 - John’s house...
 - The major of New York’s house...

Types of Morphemes



Some useful terminology: parts of speech

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- BUT:
- sad+ing, happy+ing, child+ing, lamp+ing, well+ing, sad+ly+ing
- Some morphemes combine with certain types of words belonging to particular **grammatical category** (or part of **speech**)

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- boy, bush, book, independence, complexity

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- boy, bush, book, independence, complexity
- boy+s, bush+es, book+s

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- boy, bush, book, independence, complexity
- boy+s, bush+es, book+s
- **Nouns**

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- boy, bush, book, independence, complexity
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- **Nouns**
 - Particular morphemes may attach to bases of particular types only, e.g. to nouns.

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

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- hot, bright, easy, happy, sweet

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- **Adjectives**

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- hot, bright, easy, happy, sweet
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- **Adjectives**
 - hott+er, bright+er, easi+er, happi+er, sweet+er
 - What other morphemes attach typically to adjectival bases?

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- walk, type, play, love

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- walk, type, play, love
- walks, types, plays, loves

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- walk, type, play, love
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- **Verbs**

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- walk, type, play, love
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- **Verbs**
- Other morphemes attaching to verbal bases?

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- walk, type, play, love
- walks, types, plays, loves
- **Verbs**
 - Other morphemes attaching to verbal bases?
 - Past tense +ed

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- Quickly, nicely, easily

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- Quickly, nicely, easily
- go + quickly, nicely, easily, well

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- Quickly, nicely, easily
- go + quickly, nicely, easily, well
- quickly, nicely, easily + job

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- go + quickly, nicely, easily, well
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- **Adverbs**

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Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- on, with, without, about...

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- on, with, without, about...
- **Prepositions**

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- on, with, without, about...
- **Prepositions**
- Are there normally any morphemes attached to prepositions?

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

- on, with, without, about...
- **Prepositions**
 - Are there normally any morphemes attached to prepositions?
 - No positive morphological evidence for their separate classification.

Parts of speech

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 - kawyu 'horse' - kakawyu 'horses'

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- E.g. past tense suffix on verbs, passive morpheme

Functions and Marking

- Sentential functions can be marked in some languages morphologically, while they are for example expressed via word order in English:
 - *John-ga hon-o yonda*
 - *John read a book. or John read the book.*
- English marks definiteness, Japanese not.

Other lexical classification

- Open vs. Closed Class
- Remember the frequency example from last week?
- The distribution properties of Open vs. Closed Class

Open- and closed-class words

Open- and closed-class words

- table, red, nicely, push-up, jog, etc.

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- the, a, I, you, on, in, and, or, all, most

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- **Content** words versus **function** words

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- New content words can be created by different morphological processes, i.e. content words are **open-class**.

Open- and closed-class words

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- the, a, I, you, on, in, and, or, all, most
- **Content** words versus **function** words
- New content words can be created by different morphological processes, i.e. content words are **open-class**.
- No new function words can be created in a normal regular morphological processes, i.e. function words are **closed-class** words.

Open- and closed-class words

Open- and closed-class words

- Open-class:
 - Nouns
 - Verbs
 - Adjectives

Closed-class words

- Prepositions (on, with, about....)
- Conjunctions (and, or, but...)
- Adverbs
- Articles/determiners (a, the)
- Demonstratives (this, that)
- Quantifiers (few, many, most, some, all)
- Pronouns (I, him, me...)

Open- and closed-class words

Open- and closed-class words

- Having wonderful time. Hotel great. Returning Monday. Send money.

Open- and closed-class words

- Having wonderful time. Hotel great. Returning Monday. Send money.
- Telegraphic style.
 - In early stages of child language.
 - In certain types of aphasia.

Open- and closed-class words

- What proportion of the text do closed-class words make?
- About 50%
- It's easy to list all closed-class words in any language.
 - Automatic language recognition systems
 - Discovering the language of the text.

Extending the vocabulary

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- New words can be created (coined)
- The meaning of already existing words can be changed.
- New words can be created by recombination of existing morphemes.

Neologisms (new words)

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- **Coined words.**
 - geek

Neologisms (new words)

- **Coined words.**

- geek

- **Acronyms**

- DOS disc operating system

- LAN local area network

- Radar radio detecting and ranging

- Laser light amplification (by) stimulated emission (of) radiation

Neologisms

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Neologisms

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- What's the difference between acronyms and alphabetic abbreviations?

Neologisms

Neologisms

- **Clipping**
 - Prof
 - Fax
 - Photo op

Neologisms

- **Clipping**

- Prof
- Fax
- Photo op

- **Blends**

- Motel
- Brunch
- Monicagate

Neologisms

Neologisms

- Generified words
 - Kleenex
 - Xerox

Neologisms

- Generified words
 - Kleenex
 - Xerox
- Proper names
 - General George Hooker
 - Dr. Joseph Guillotin (guillotine)

Neologisms

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 - Iron horse
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 - Worldview

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 - Worldview
- Translation problem: Hot Dog? other: real dog meat has been used (19th century Germany)

Changing the meaning of a word

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- The meaning of a word changes to the opposite of the original.

Change in Part of Speech

- Ponytail
 - To ponytail her hair
- People
 - To people an island
- Slang?
 - *They outed her.*
 - *They offed him while he was breaking into the store.*

Metaphorical extension

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- Taking existing words to apply them in a new domain

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- For mental processes: realm of food and digestion

Broadening and narrowing

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- Broadening: *Cool*
- Originally: genre of jazz music

Broadening and narrowing

- Broadening: *Cool*
 - Originally: genre of jazz music
- Narrowing: *Meat*
 - Originally: any solid consumable food (nutmeat, German: *Fruchtfleisch*)

Semantic drift

Semantic drift

- Lady
 - Originally composed of two parts: *hlaf* 'OE bread' + *dighe* 'OE kneader'
 - Kneader of bread → *lady*

Reversals

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- Bad
 - Meaning good

Reversals

- Bad
 - Meaning good
- This is awfully good.
 - Awfully - emphatic for very.

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- Compositionality of meaning

Inflection versus derivation

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Inflection versus derivation

- Derivation - deriving new words, e.g. +able (do +able), +er (open+er), self+ (self+admirer), etc.
- Inflection - creating different grammatical forms of the same word, e.g. +s (he play+s), +ed (play +ed), +ing (play+ing), +s (toy+s), +s (Mary's), +er (hott+er), +est (hott+est).

Inflection versus derivation

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- Inflection
 - Doesn't change the grammatical category
 - Meaning relationship is regular.

Inflection versus derivation

- Inflection
 - Doesn't change the grammatical category
 - Meaning relationship is regular.
- Derivation
 - May change the grammatical category.
 - Meaning relationship not always regular.
 - E.g. fixable versus readable.

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- BUT: *modern+ing+ize

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Morphological structure

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- How will you analyze word 'unlockable'?
- un+lock+able

Morphological structure

- How will you analyze word 'unlockable'?
 - un+lock+able
- What are the two meanings of 'unlockable'?

Morphological structure

- Add **un-** to a verb
 - make another verb
 - means “reverse the action of” or “undo”
 - example: lock \Rightarrow **un**lock
- Add **un-** to an adjective
 - makes another adjective
 - means “not”
 - example: lucky \Rightarrow unlucky

Morphological structure

Morphological structure

UNLOCKABLE?

Morphological structure

UNLOCKABLE?

UN[LOCKABLE]

Morphological structure

UNLOCKABLE?

UN[LOCKABLE]

[UNLOCK]ABLE

Morphological structure

- Add **-able** to a verb
 - makes an adjective
 - means “able to have the action of the verb performed on it ”
 - example: break \Rightarrow breakable

UNLOCKABLE?

UN[LOCKABLE]

[UNLOCK]ABLE

Structure and Compositionality

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 - Merger: two units combine to form a larger unit
 - As units combine, their meanings combine
 - This is known as compositionality

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A diagram illustrating the concept of compositionality. The words "un lock able un lock able" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A thin, black diagonal line is drawn above the first "lock" word, starting from the top of the "l" and extending to the top of the "k".

Structure and Compositionality

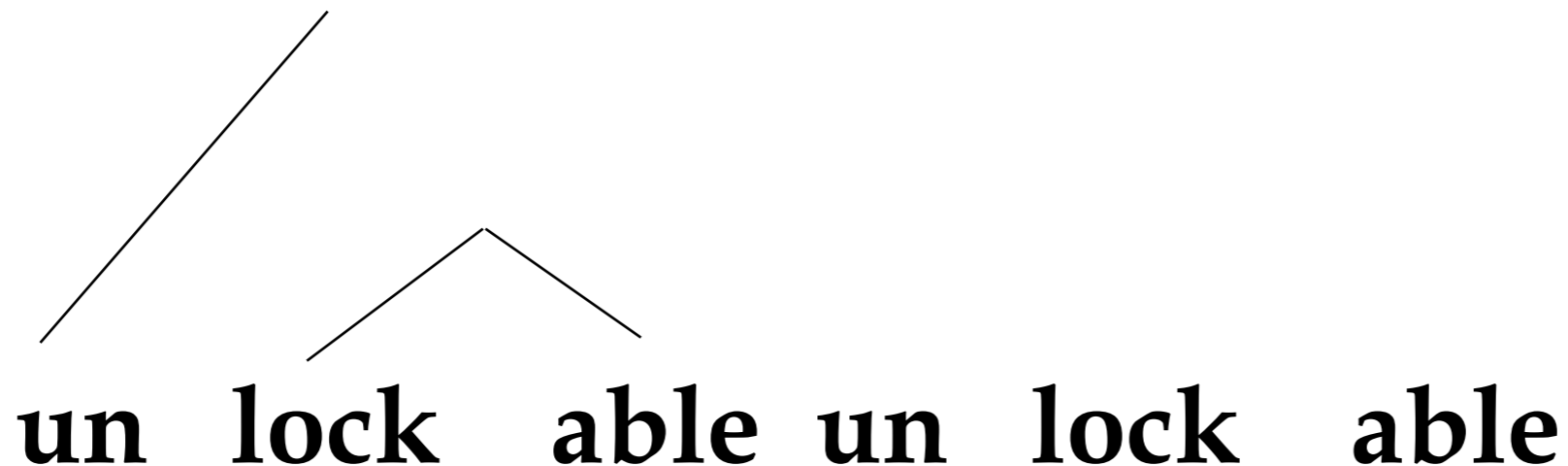
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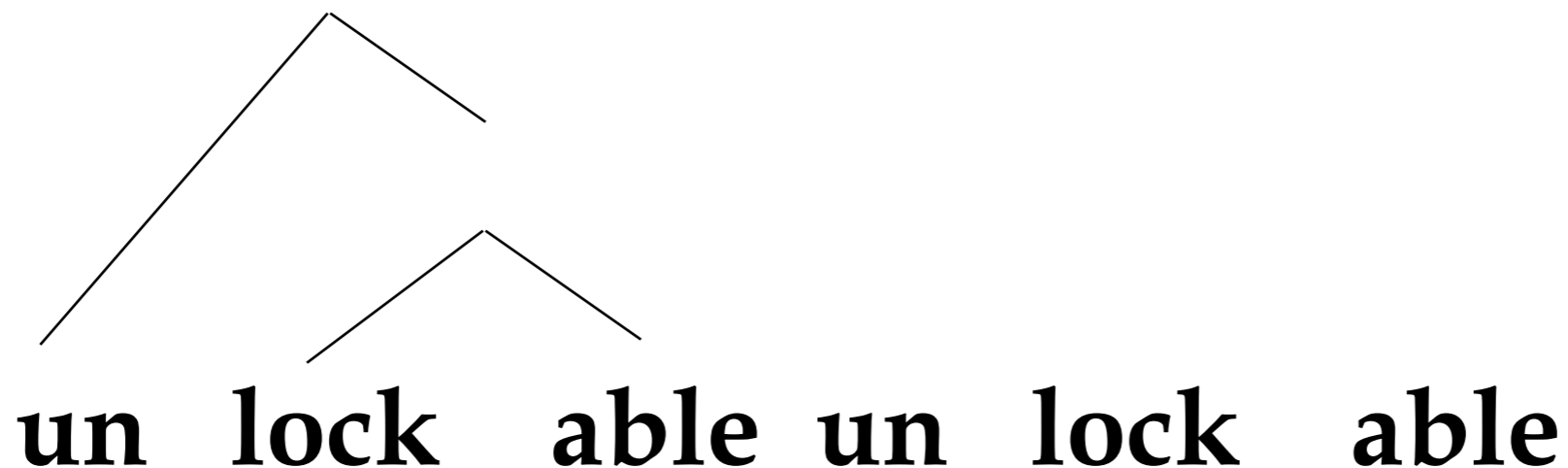
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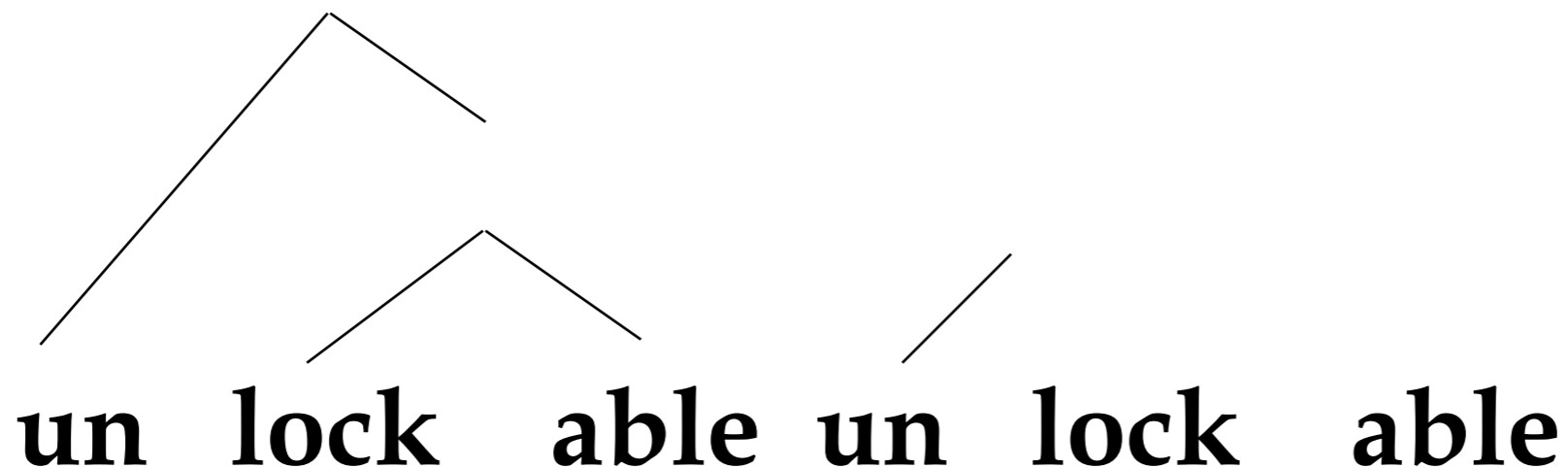
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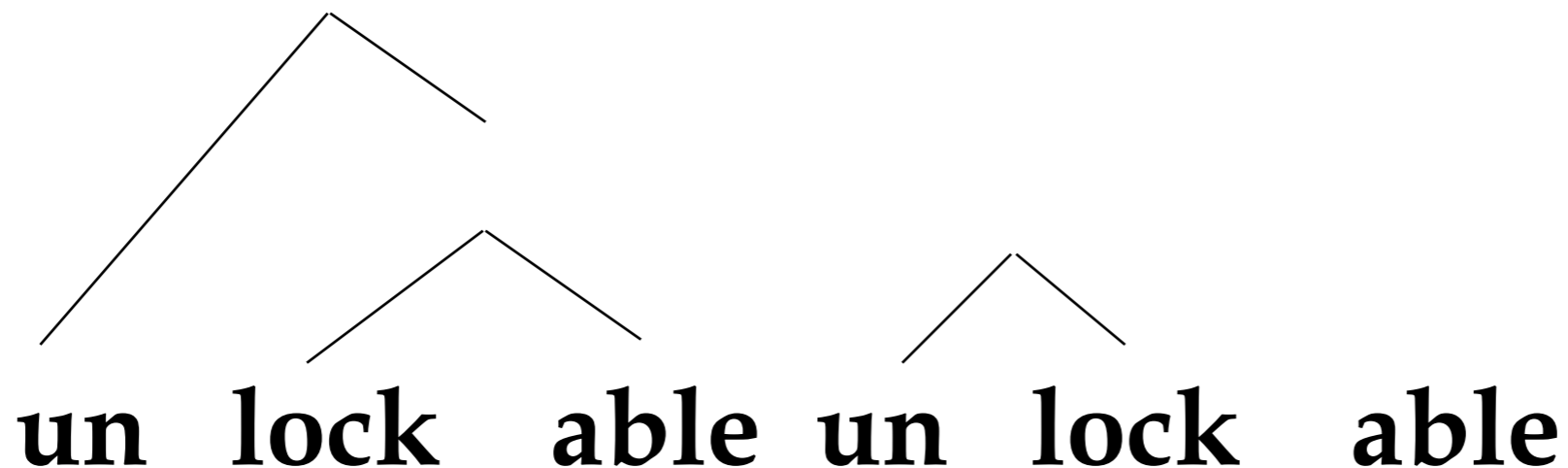
Structure and Compositionality

- Human language design is intrinsically structured
 - Merger: two units combine to form a larger unit
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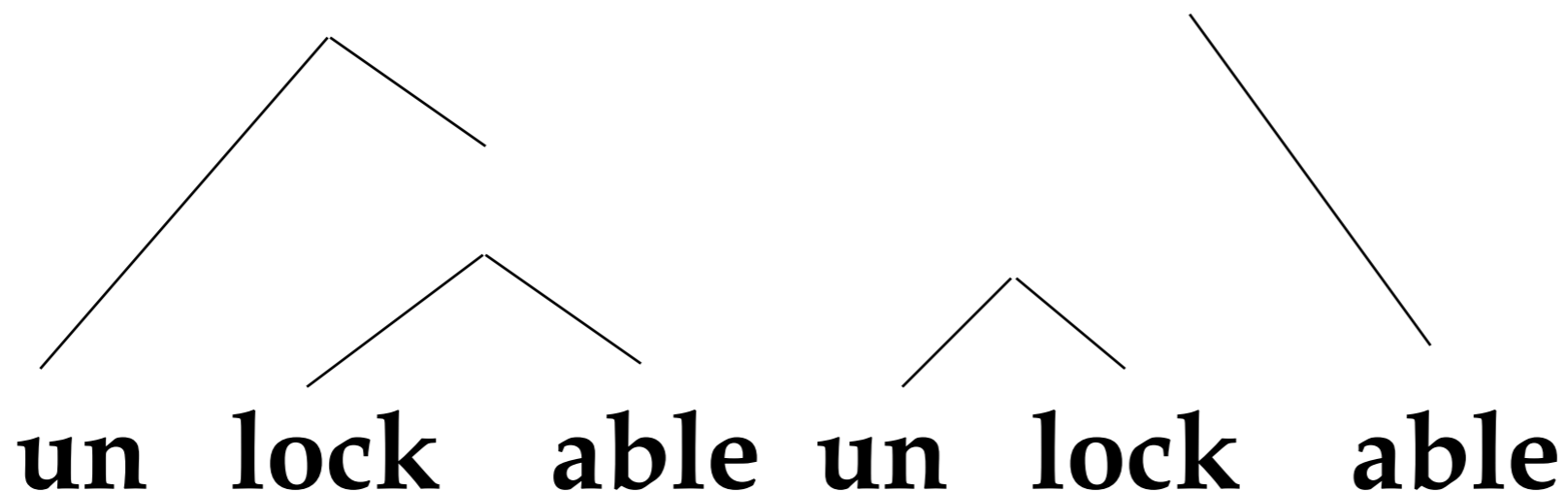
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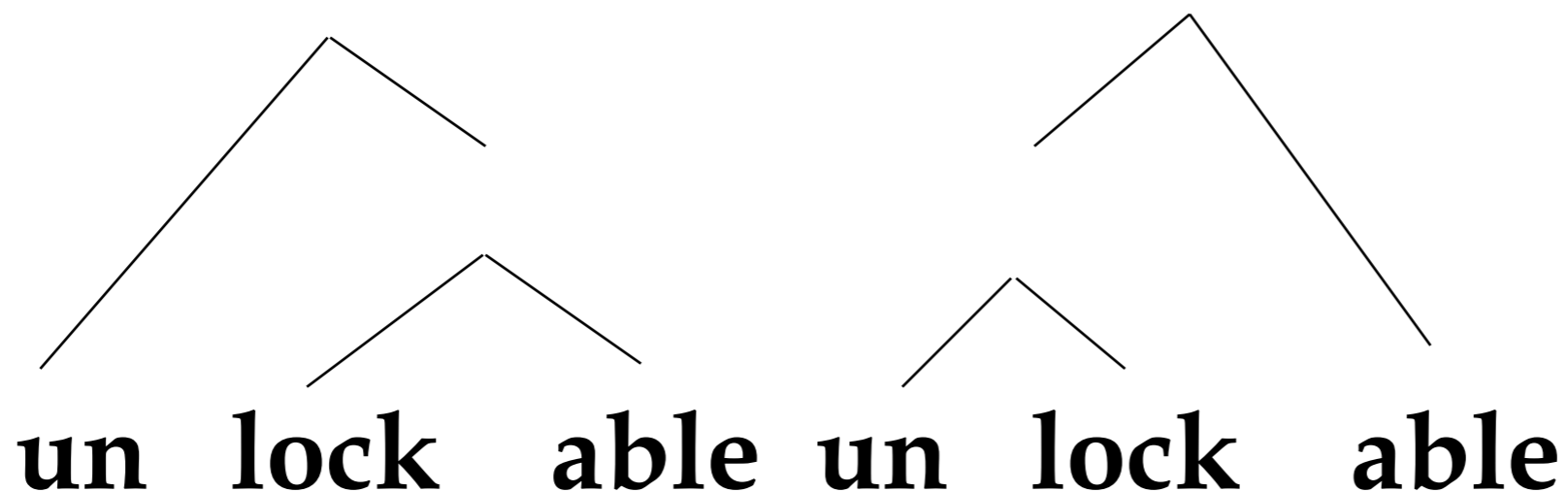
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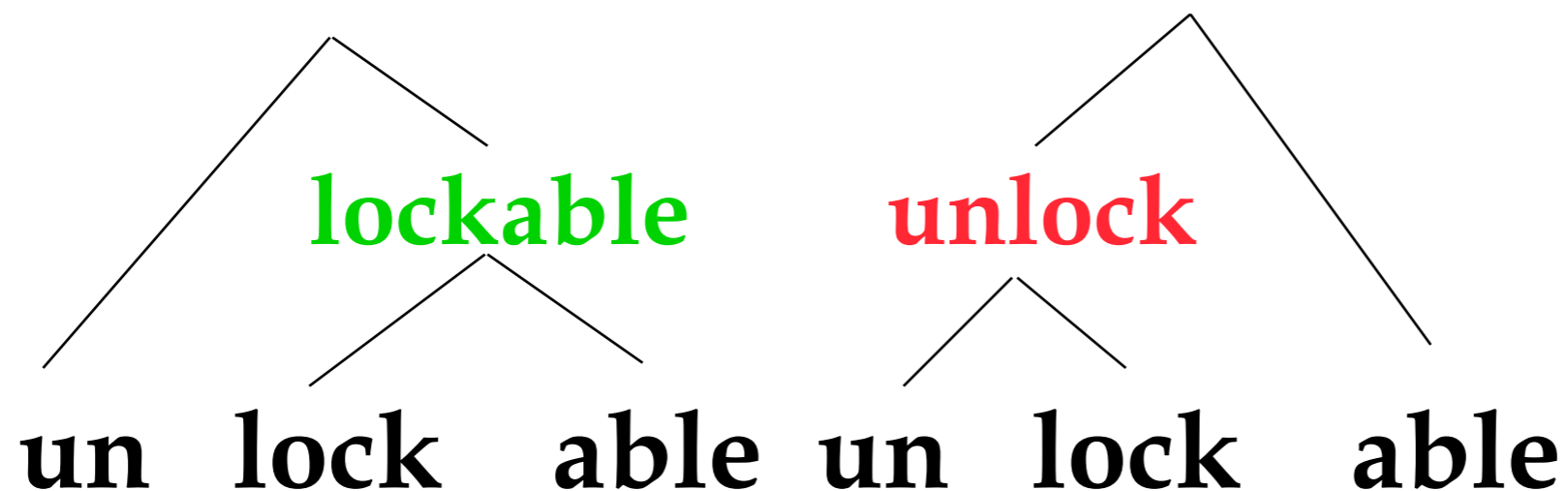
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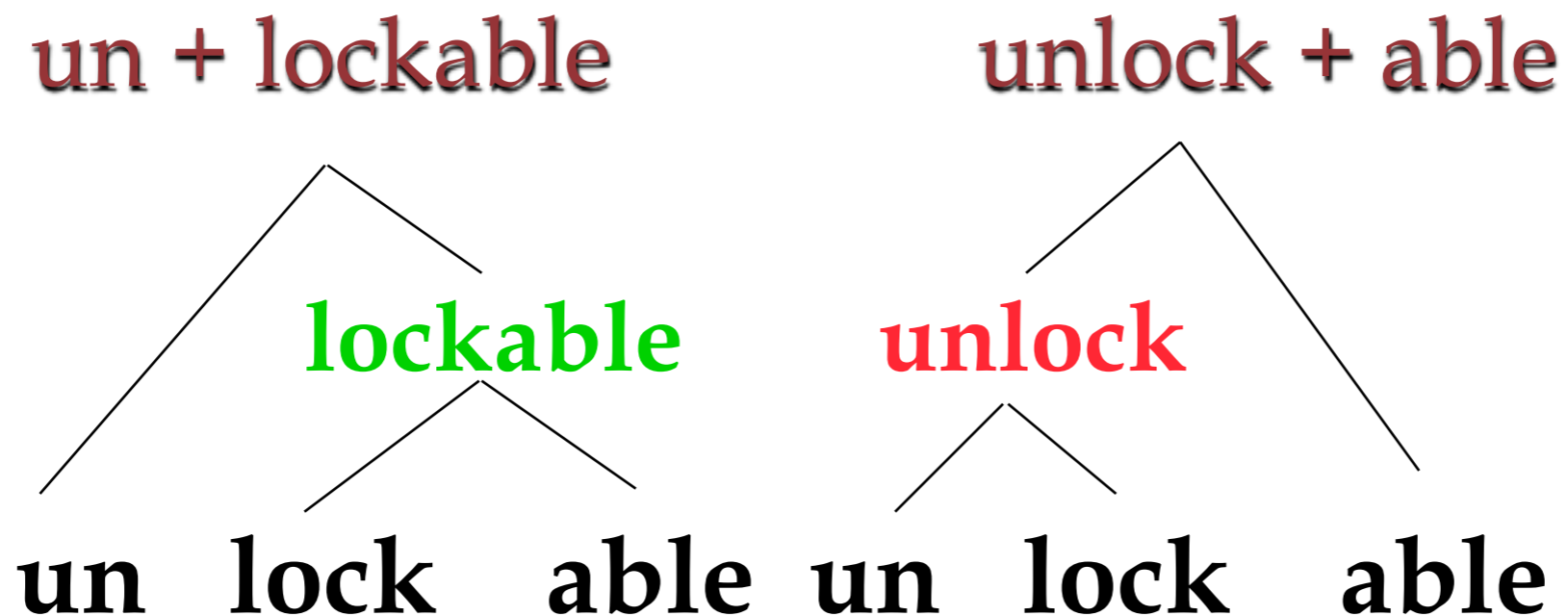
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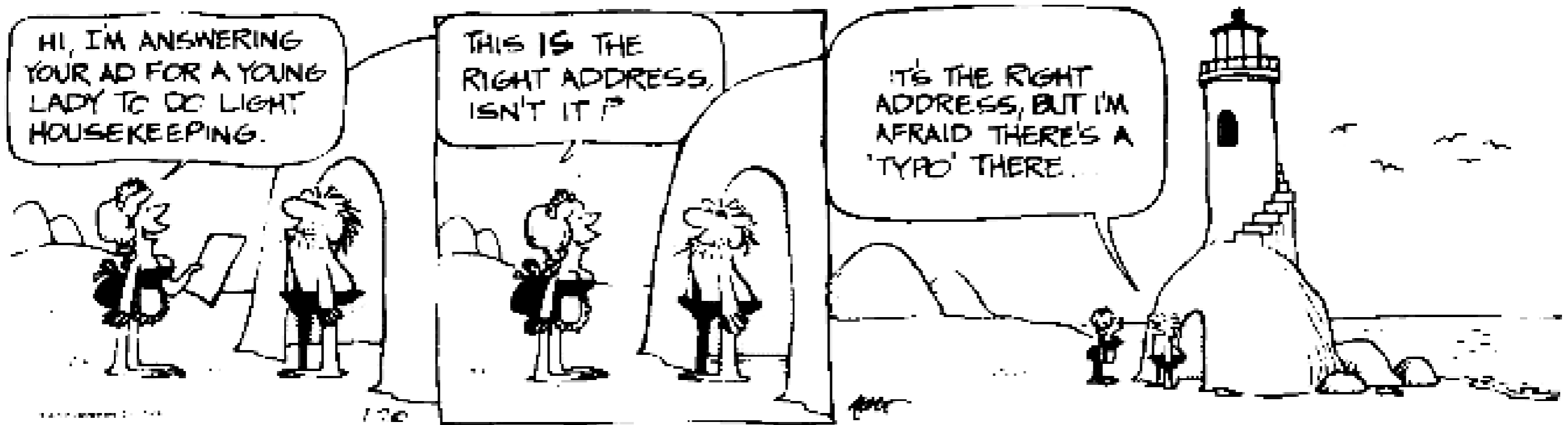


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Word Stress



By permission of Johnny Hart and Creators Syndicate, Inc.

Compounds

Compounds

- Compound - words are joined together to form another word

Compounds

- Compound - words are joined together to form another word
- Blackboard

Compounds

- Compound - words are joined together to form another word
- Blackboard
- Black board

Compounds

- Compound - words are joined together to form another word
- Blackboard
- Black board
- Differences in stress:

Compounds

- Compound - words are joined together to form another word
- Blackboard
- Black board
- Differences in stress:
- Black 'board vs 'blackboard

Compounds

Compounds

- Compositionality of meaning

Compounds

- Compositionality of meaning
- Darkroom versus dark room

Compounds

- Compositionality of meaning
- Darkroom versus dark room
- Compare ‘alligator shoes’ versus ‘horseshoes’

Compounds

- Compositionality of meaning
- Darkroom versus dark room
- Compare ‘alligator shoes’ versus ‘horseshoes’
- ‘Bigfoot’ versus ‘big foot’ and

Compounds

- Compositionality of meaning
- Darkroom versus dark room
- Compare ‘alligator shoes’ versus ‘horseshoes’
- ‘Bigfoot’ versus ‘big foot’ and
- ‘bigwig’ versus ‘big wig’

Compounds

Compounds

- high chair

Compounds

- high chair
- High chair (= special kind of chair for babies)

Compounds

- high chair
- High chair (= special kind of chair for babies)
- *higher chair (only possible for the phrasal interpretation)

Homework

- Homework assignment I
 - Page 57 in edition 5 (also Google Books version) or page 59 in edition 6, i.e. the newest edition, and there the exercises 1 to 4 and 7.
-
- Reading: finish chapter 2 from Akmajian et. al and chapter 3 up to Section 3.3!