

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?

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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.)

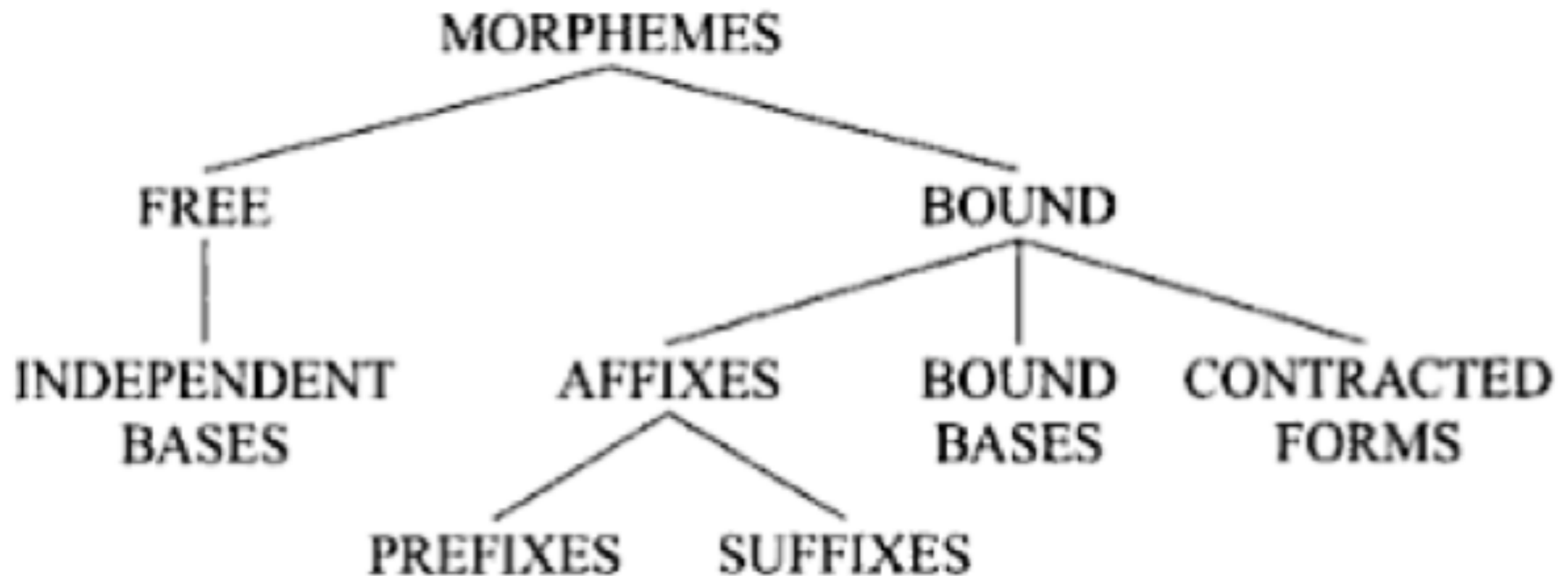
English Contracted Forms

- 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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- 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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- walks, types, plays, loves

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

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

Some useful terminology: parts of speech

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

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- 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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- The meaning of already existing words can be changed.

Extending the vocabulary

- 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.**

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- **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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- **Alphabetic abbreviations**

Neologisms

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- IT informational technology

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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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 - Iron horse
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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 unlock
- 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 towards the top of the 'k', visually representing the combination of 'un' and 'lock' into a larger unit.

Structure and Compositionality

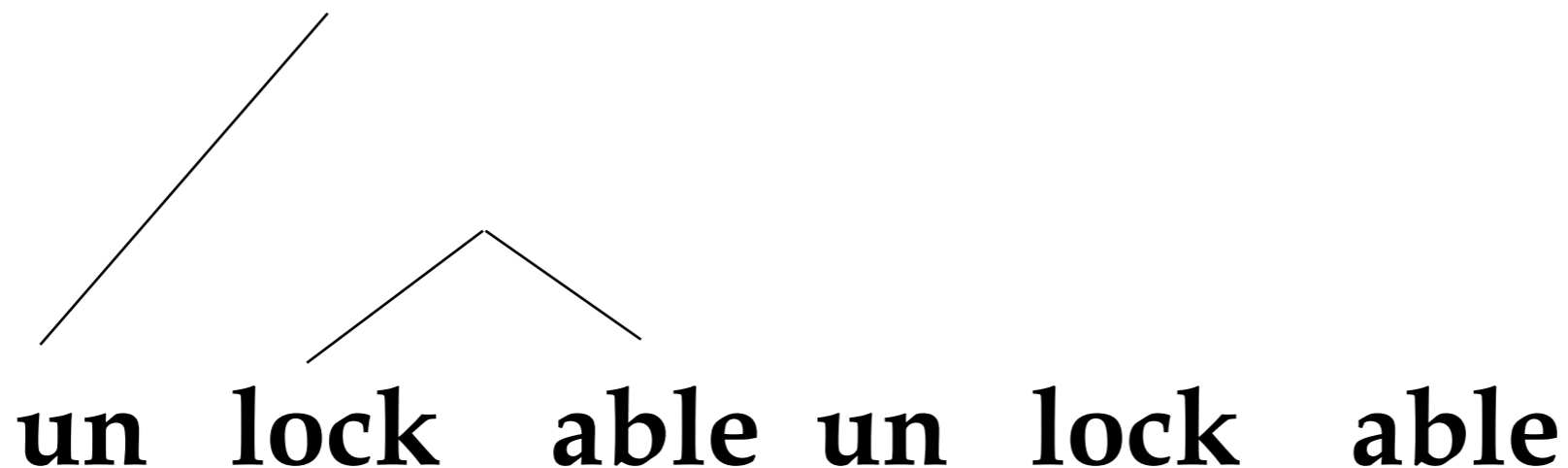
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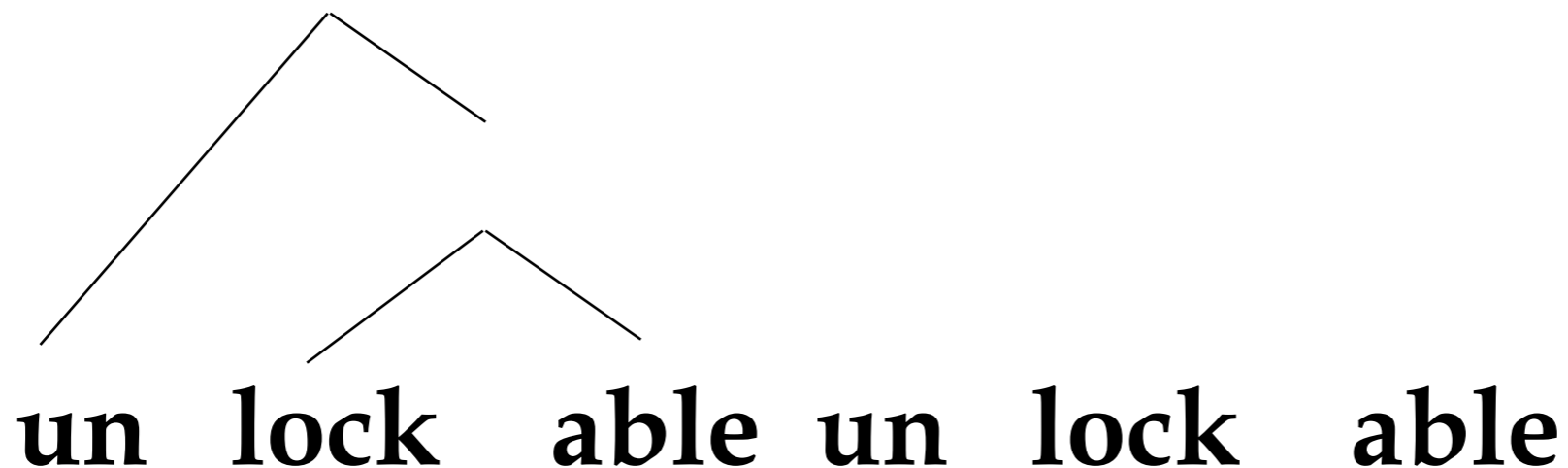
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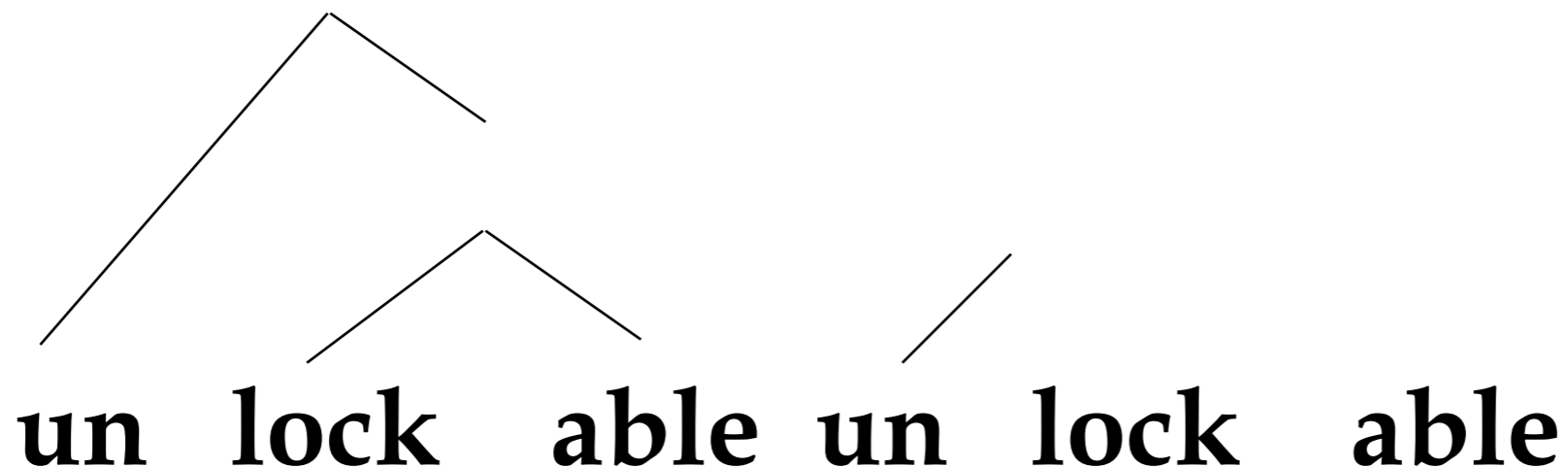
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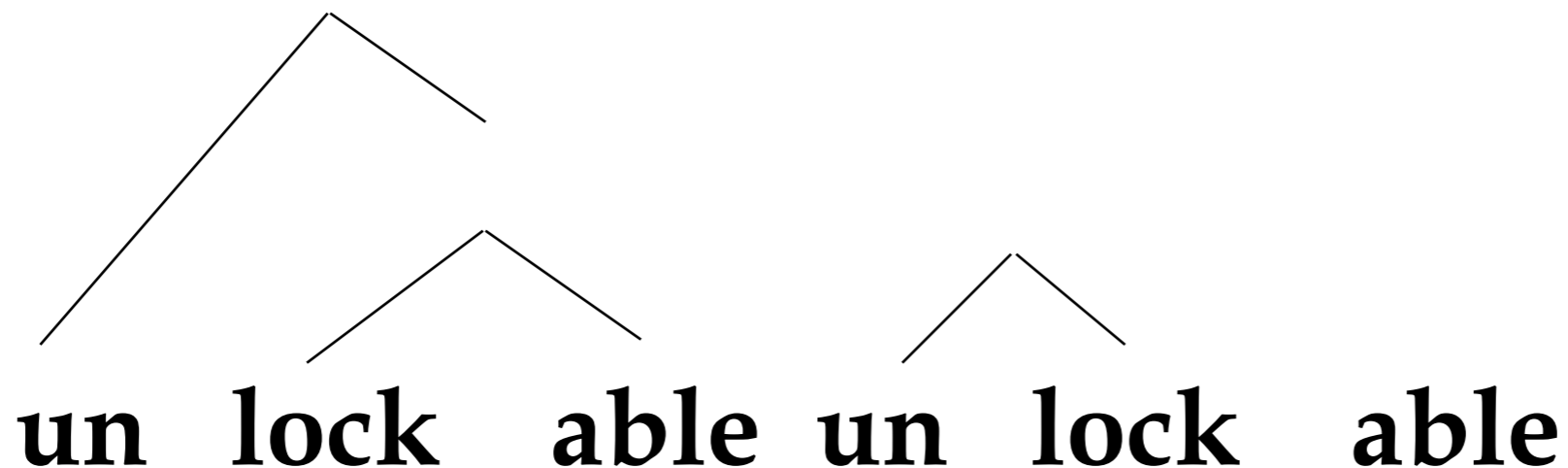
Structure and Compositionality

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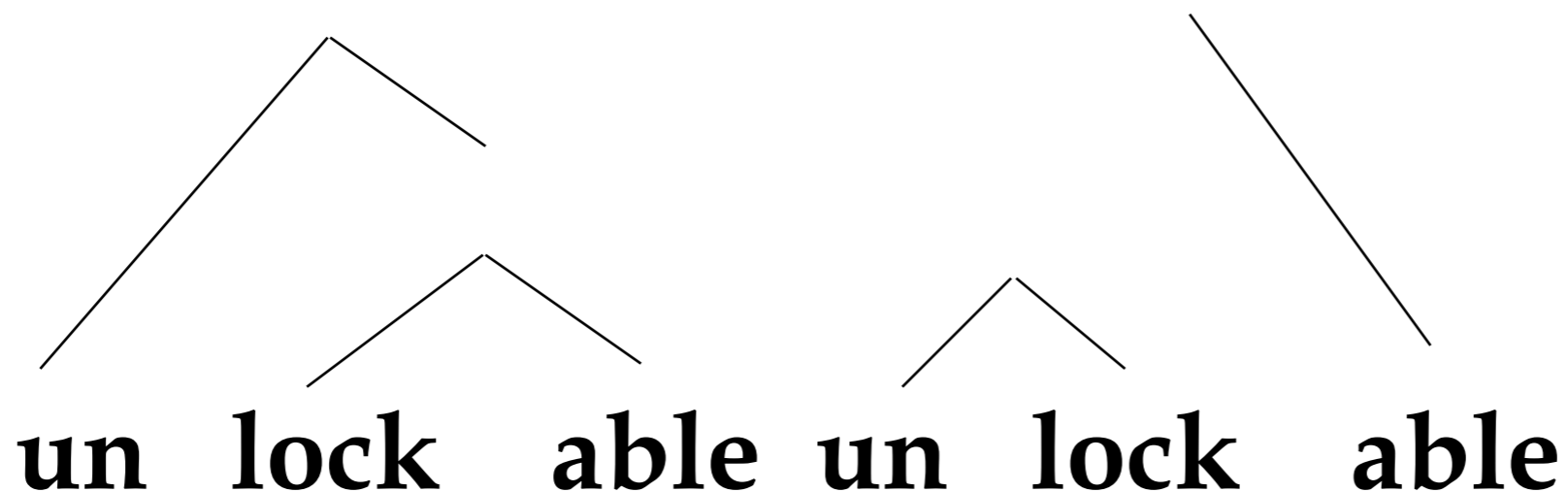
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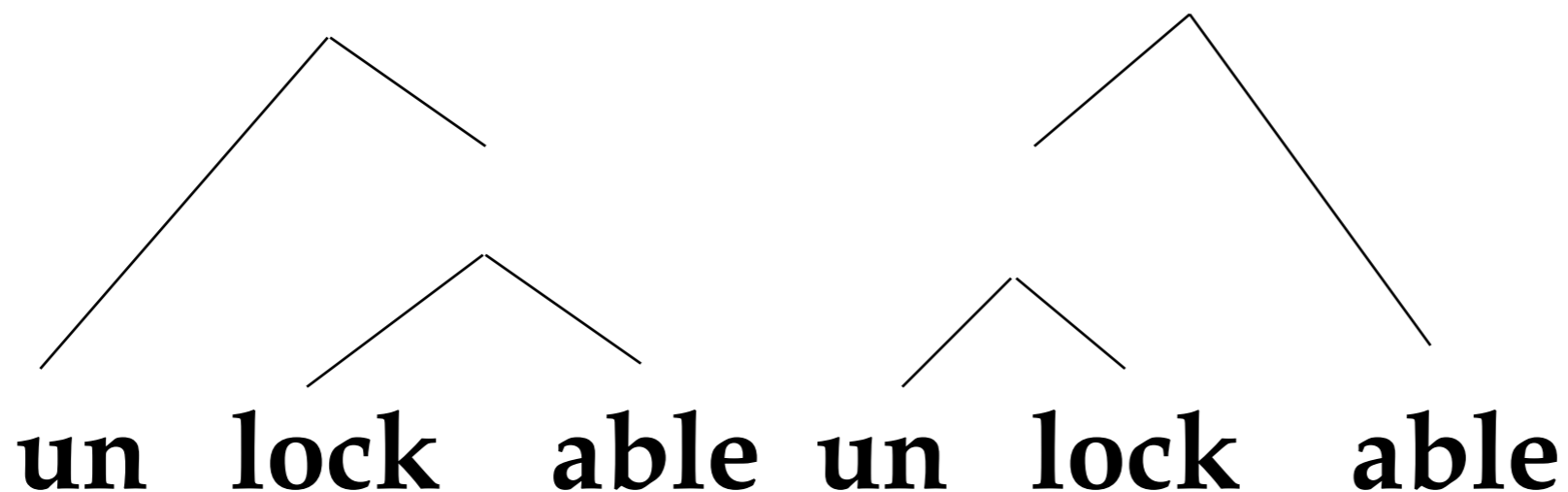
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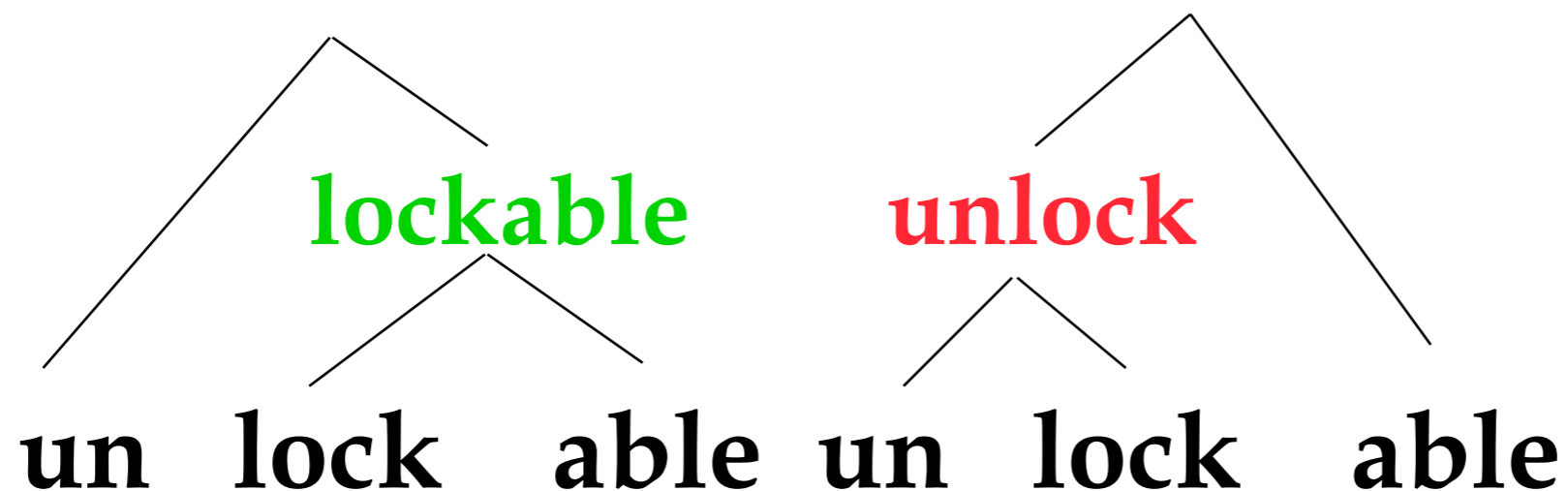
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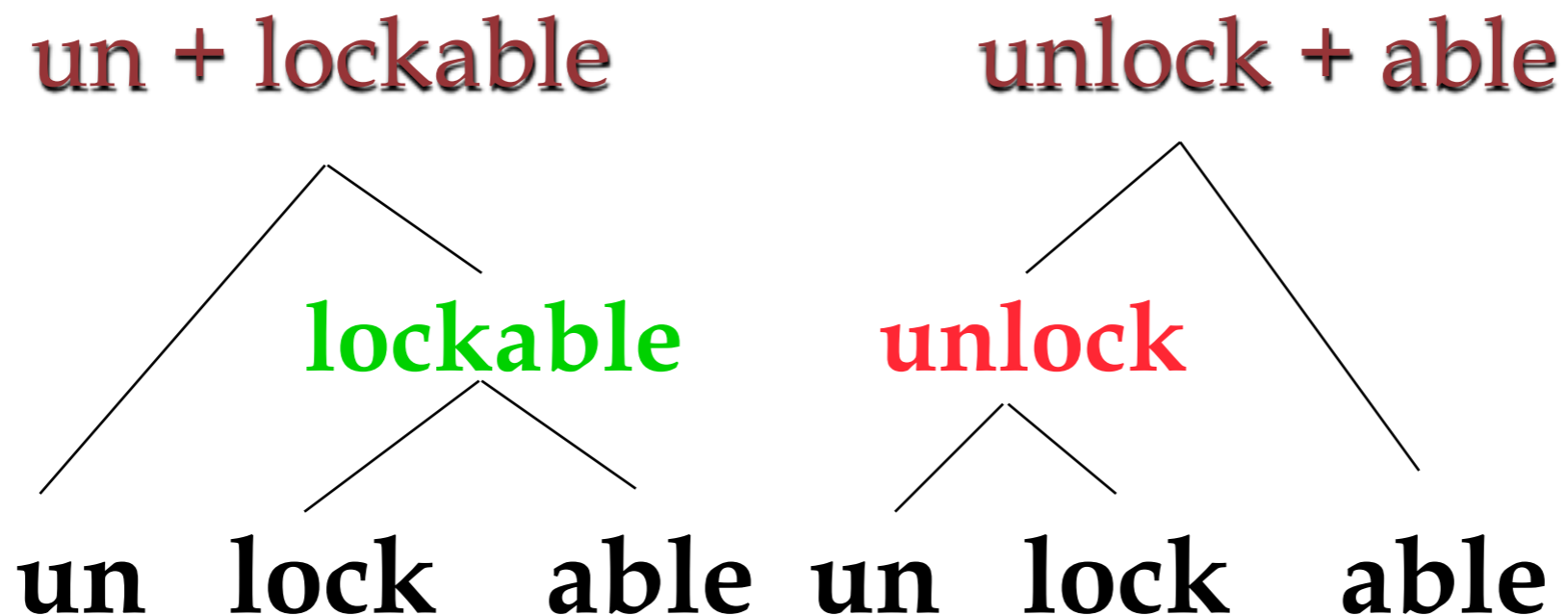
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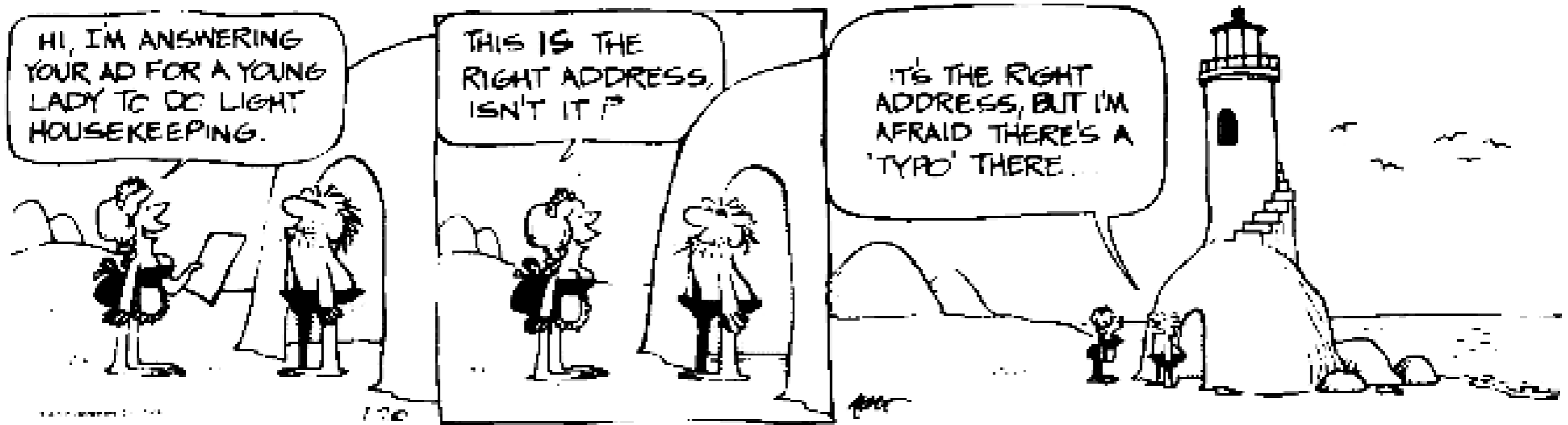


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Word Stress



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!