# Where am I?

o   HUL242: **Fundamentals of Language Sciences**

o   **Morphology (Lecture-2)**

o   Monday, Feb 10th

Review
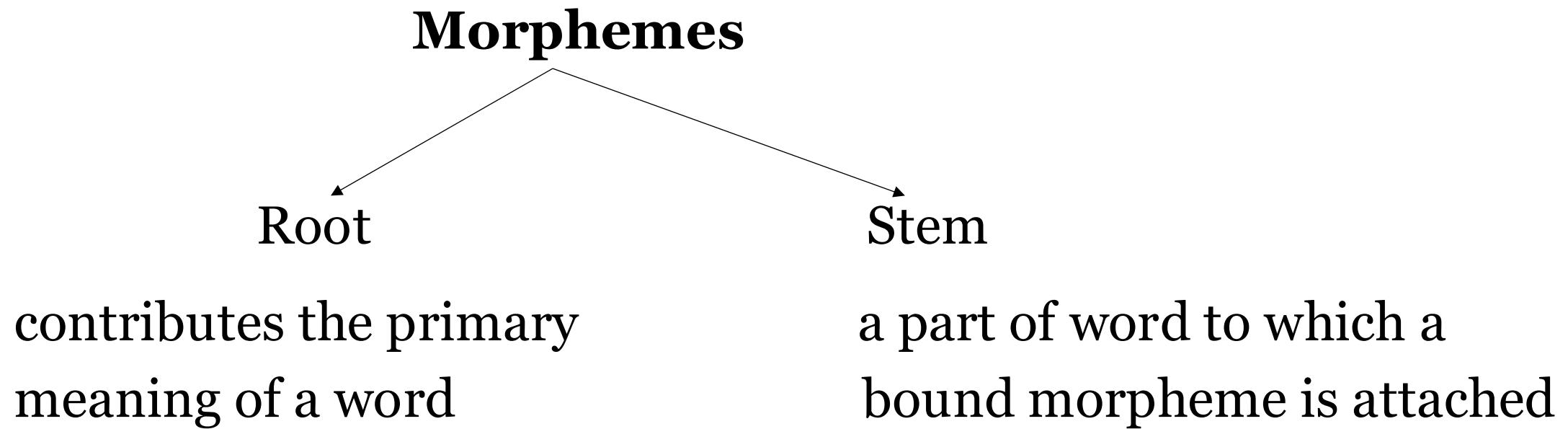
- Words are made up of the **smallest** meaningful units of sound.

- Such units are called **Morphemes.**

Review: Kinds of Morphemes

Morphemes

Free   Bound

prefix   suffix   infix   circumfix
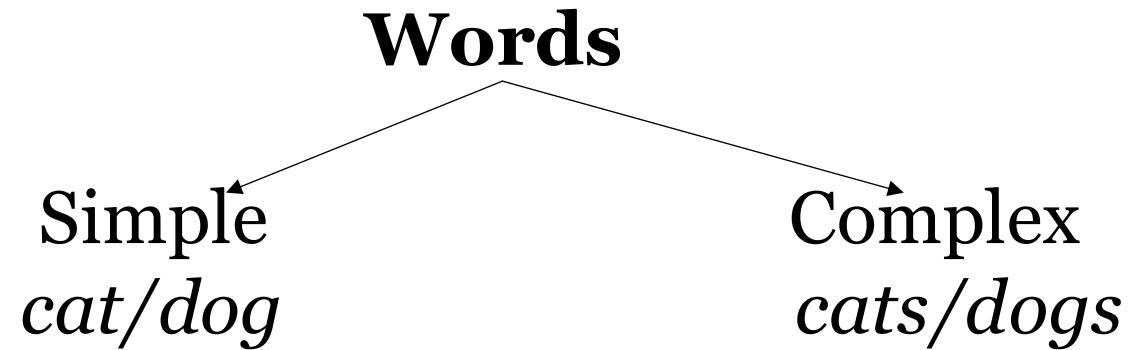
Note: A cover term for all the four bound morphemes is **Affixes**

Review: Kinds of Morphemes

Morphemes

Root

contributes the primary
meaning of a word

Stem

a part of word to which a
bound morpheme is attached

Review: Kinds of Words

Words

Simple
cat/dog
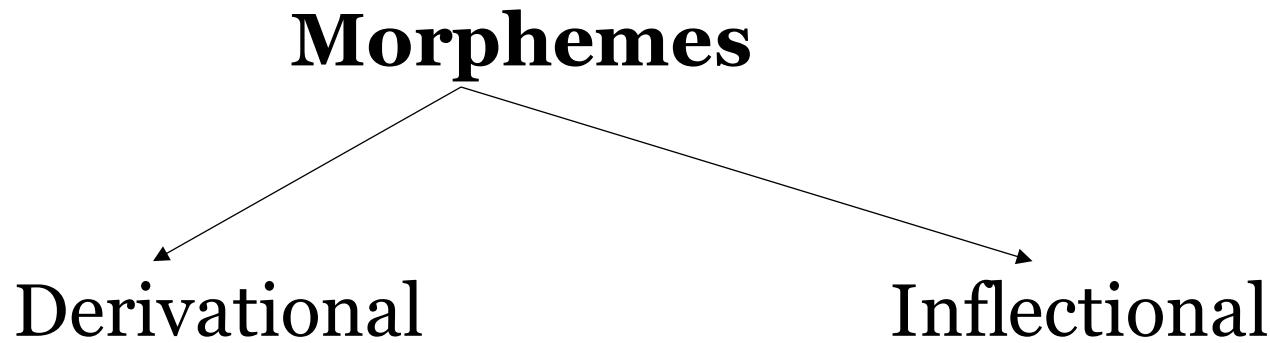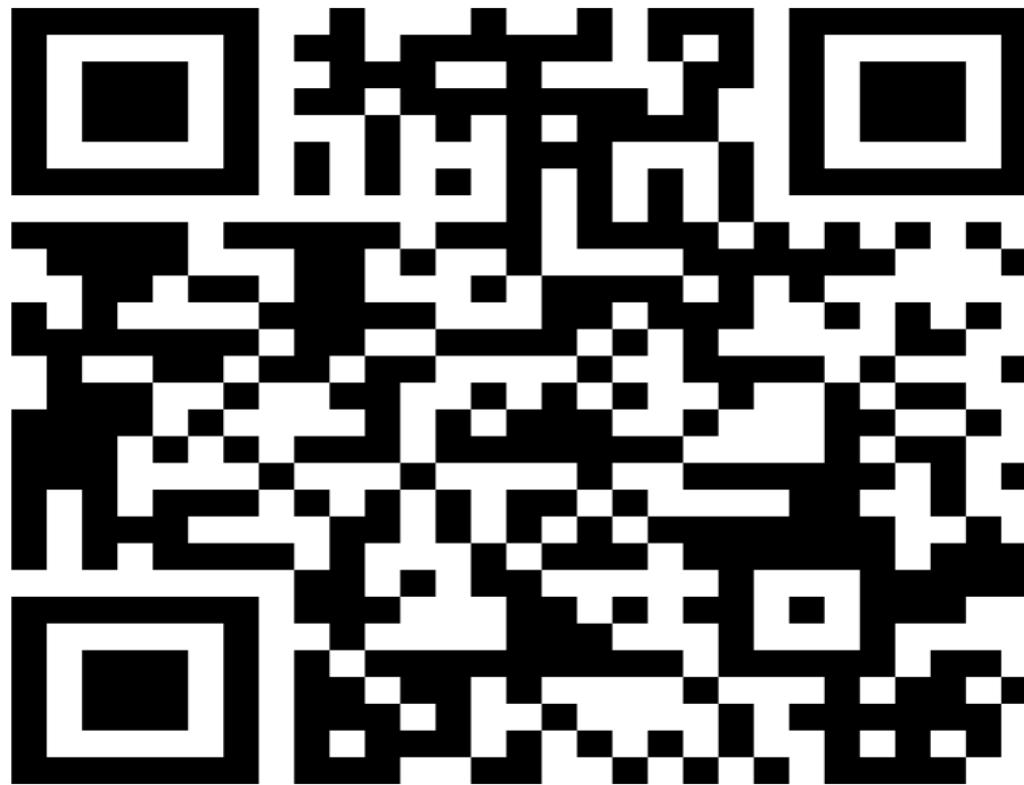
Complex
cats/dogs

o Complex words through Affixation
  ➤ Prefixation,
  ➤ Suffixation,
  ➤ Infixation,
  ➤ Circumfixation

Review: Kinds of Morphemes

Morphemes

Derivational   Inflectional

o **Derivational** morphemes change meaning. Often (though not always), they change parts of speech and create *new words*. **Derivational morphemes do not care about grammatical/syntactic context**

o **Inflectional** morphemes allow our 'old' words to 'agree with' their grammatical/syntactic contexts: Tense, number, person, gender (in languages that have it), etc. **Do not change lexical category/parts of speech.**

Think, Pair, Share

Discussion

1. a. Humorless
   b. Hopeless

2. a. This food has **less** sugar.
   b. I have **less** money.

o   Is **less** used in (1) and the one used in (2) the same?
o   No. Although they look similar in their form, they have different distributions and **meanings.**
  ➢   in (1) –less: A bound morpheme (always needs a host) and the meaning is "absence"
  ➢   in (2) less: A free morpheme, the meaning is "a smaller amount/not so much"

More on Derivational vs. Inflectional morphemes

Derivational vs. inflectional

o **Inflectional** morphemes show syntactic relations between different words.

1. I work.
2. She work**s**.
  ➢ The morpheme –**s** in (2) indicates the (present) tense and the person agreement with the subject.

3. [A student] worked.
4. [Two student**s**] worked.
  ➢ The morpheme –**s** in (4) shows the number agreement with the numeral 'two' and the noun. In its absence, the phrase is ungrammatical.

More examples of inflectional morphemes

1. I work.
2. I work**ed**.
   - ➤ The morpheme –**ed** in (2) indicates the 'past tense'.

3. I am work**ing**.
   - ➤ The morpheme –**ing** in (3) indicates the 'progressive aspect'.

4. John is quick**er** than Bill
   - ➤ The morpheme –**er** in (4) indicates the comparison (mostly accompanied by 'than').

More on Derivational morphemes

o **Derivational** morphemes show semantic relations within words. They do not have any connection with any other morphemes in a sentence except the word they attach to.

   1. I feel so hope**less** when I can't help my friends.
   2. You feel so hope**less** when you can't help your friends.
   3. A hope**less** person came to meet me.
   4. I met a hope**less** person.

o The derivational morpheme –**less** has no connection with any other words/morphemes in (1)-(4) except the stem 'hope'.

o **That is, derivational morphemes do not care about grammatical/syntactic context**

Practice -1

- How many morphemes in *worker?*
  - ➢ Two morphemes: **work** (V) and **–er** (one who..)

- Is -**er** derivational? why or why not?
  - ➢ Yes!, changes the part of speech (V -> N) and also the meaning.

- Is -**er** inflectional? why or why not?
  - ➢ **No**! it doesn't change the part of speech and meaning, **not sensitive to the grammatical context.**

Practice-2

o How many morphemes in *tables?*
  ➤ Two morphemes: **table** (N) and **–s** (plural morpheme)

o Is -**s** derivational? why or why not?
  ➤ **No! It does not change the part of speech and meaning**
     ('tables' is still a noun and has the same meaning as 'table')**.**

o Is -**s** inflectional? why or why not?
  ➤ **Yes! It is sensitive to the grammatical context** and does
     not change the part of speech and meaning of the noun 'table'

Some Noun-forming derivational affixes

-er: is attached to a verb and changes it to a noun,
> ➢ work (V) -> worker (N)

-ment: is attached to a verb and changes it to a noun
> ➢ agree (V) -> agreement (N)

-ness: is attached to an adjective and changes it to a noun,
> ➢ bright (Adj) -> brightness (N)

-ion: is attached to a verb and changes it to a noun
> ➢ educate (V) -> education (N)

Some Verb-forming derivational affixes

-ate: is attached to an adjective and changes it to a verb
   ➢ active (Adj) -> activate (V)

-en: is attached to an adjective and changes it to a verb
   ➢ wide (Adj) -> widen (V)

-ify: is attached to an adjective and changes it to a verb
   ➢ Clear (Adj) -> clarify (V)

-ize: is attached to a noun and changes it to a verb
   ➢ apology (N) -> apologize (V)

Some Adjective-forming derivational affixes

-**able**: is attached to a verb and changes it to an adjective
  ➢ eat (V) -> eatable (Adj)

-**ful**: is attached to a noun and changes it to an adjective
  ➢ care (N) -> careful (Adj)

-**less**: is attached to a noun and changes it to an adjective
  ➢ hope (N) -> hopeless (Adj)

Some Adverb-forming derivational affixes

-**ly**: is attached to an adjective and changes it to an adverb
   ➢   hopeful (Adj) -> hopefully (Adv)

-**ily**: is attached to an adjective and changes it to an adverb
   ➢   easy (Adj) -> easily (Adv)

-**ally**: is attached to an adjective and changes it to an adverb
   ➢ politic (Adj) -> politically (Adv)

A final note on derivational morphemes: Exceptions

o Derivational morphemes change part of speech. However, **there are some which do not.**

Derivational morpheme	Stem	New word
un-	able (Adj)	Un-able(Adj)
in-	balance(N)	In-balance (N)
re-	write (V)	Re-write (V)
dis-	connect (V)	disconnect (V)
mis-	understanding(N)	mis-understanding (N)

o All are **prefixes** in English.

A final note on Morphemes

Homophones (same form but different meanings)
1. a. To (Preposition)   2. a. Sea (N)   3. a. Sell (V)
   b. Too   (Adverb)   b. See (V)   b. Cell (N)
   c. Two   (Number)

Homographs (same spelling but different forms and meanings)
 1. a. lead   (V, to go in front)   2. a. Can (V)
    b. lead   (N, a kind of metal)   b. Can (N, container)

Morphological Processes

Morphological Processes

o A process though which new words or new forms of a word are being formed.

o We already looked at the following 4 kinds.
  - Prefixation : by adding a prefix such as '**un**-kind'
  - Suffixation : by adding a suffix such as 'cat-**s**'
  - Infixation : by adding infix such as 'l-**um**-ipad' 'flew' in Tagalog
  - Circumfixation : by adding a circumfix such as **ge**-spiel-**t** 'played' in German

o Apart from these, there are other processes.

Compounding

o Another way to form new words is by combining two or more independent words.

o These independent words could be free morphemes (set-1) or derived by affixation (set-2) or even words formed by compounding themselves (set-3).

Set-1	Set-2	Set-3
blackbird	air-condition**er**	lifeguard chair
girlfriend	look**ing** glass	aircraft carrier
hotdog	watch-mak**er**	life-insurance salesman

Compounding

o Compounds meanings are *lexicalized* (i.e., to an extent idiomatic). Phrase meanings are *compositional*.

o Compounds have quite different stress patterns from the corresponding uncompounded phrase.

Compound	Phrases
bláckbird	bláck bírd
gírlfriend	gírl fríend

Question: Can you think of any compound formation in Hindi or your native language?

Reduplication

o Doubling an entire free morpheme (total reduplication) or part of it (partial reduplication).

➤ Total reduplication (in Indonesian)

singular		plural	
rumah	'house'	rumahrumah	'houses'
ibu	'mother'	'ibuibu'	'mothers'
lalat	'fly'	lalatlalat	'flies'

➤ Partial reduplication (in Tagalog)

verb stem		future tense	
bili	'buy'	bibili	'will buy'
kain	'eat'	'kakain'	'will eat'
pasok	'enter'	papasok	'will enter'

o Question: Can you think of any reduplication in English, Hindi, your native language?

Alternations

o Morpheme internal modifications

➢ Plural alternation in English

singular	plural			
man	men	[æ]	~	[ɛ]
woman	women	[ʊ]	~	[ɪ]
goose	geese	[u]	~	[i]
foot	feet	[ʊ]	~	[i]

Suppletion

o   The use of completely unrelated forms

➢   Suppletion in English Tense
    Present   Past
    go   went   (as opposed to play -> played)
    is   was

➢   Suppletion in comparative and superlative in English
    Adjective   comparative
    good   better   (as opposed to beautiful -> more beautiful)
    bad   worse

o   Question: Can you think of suppletion in Hindi or your native language?

A note on root morphemes

o Consider the following
  ➢ con-fer, re-fer, de-fer (-fer = to carry, bring)
  ➢ con-ceive, re-ceive, de-ceive (-ceive = to take/seize)
  ➢ con-sist, re-sist, de-sist (-sist = to stop/cease)

o -fer, -ceive, -sist (came from Latin 'ferre', capere', 'sister') seem to contribute the primary meaning (thus like Root). However, these morphemes do not correspond to any free morphemes in English. Morphemes of this sort are called "**Bound roots**". They came from Latin.

o In this course, we will take the above-mentioned words as one morphemic word.

A note on *Content and Function* Morphemes

o **Content morphemes** are said to have more concrete semantic meaning. Roughly, they refer to something out in the world, real or abstract.
  - ➢ Nouns, Verbs, adjectives or adverbs, and all derivational affixes, and bound roots belonging to these categories are content morphemes.

o **Functional morphemes** contain primarily grammatically relevant information
  - ➢ Prepositions, determiners, pronouns or conjunctions, and all inflectional affixes belonging to these categories are function morphemes.

o A traditional distinction! We will **exclude** this discussion from this course.

Practice

o Data from Hindi.

[aḑəɾ] 'respect'   [ənaḑəɾ] 'disrespect'

[aḑi:] 'beginning'   [ənaḑi:] 'without beginning/eternal'

o Question: Which morphological process is this and what is the
morpheme?

➢ Prefixation, /ən-/

Practice

o Data from Hindi.

[ləɽ] 'fight' (a verb)   [ləɽɑi:] 'fight' (a noun)

[pəɽ] 'read' (a verb)   [pəɽɑi:] 'reading' (a noun)

o Question: Which morphological process is this, and what is the morpheme?

➢ Suffixation, /-ɑi:/

Practice

o Data from Bontoc, a Malayo-Polynesian language spoken in Philippines.

o An example of derivational morphology in which an adjectival root is turned into a verb.

Adjective   verb
[fikas] 'strong'   [fumikas] 'He is becoming strong.'
[kilad] 'red'   [kumilad] 'He is becoming red.'

o Question: Which morphological process is this, and what is the morpheme?
➢ Infixation, /-um-/

Practice

o Data from Isthmus Zapotec, a language spoken in Maxico.

[palu] 'stick'   [spalulu] 'your stick'
[ku:ba] 'dough'   [sku:balu] 'your dough'
[tapa] 'four'   [stapalu] 'your four'

o Question: Which morphological process is this and what is the morpheme?

➢ Circumfixation , [s--lu]

Summing up

- **Derivational morpheme:** create a new word, changes meaning, often changes lexical category/part of speech

  - ➢ -less, -ness, -ly, en-, un- etc.

- **Inflectional morpheme**: never changes lexical category and meaning, shows grammatical relations (tense, number, person, gender etc.)
  - ➢ Very few in languages (see p-152, table-3 for the list of English inflectional morphemes)

Summing up

o Morpheme is an abstract thing. Its phonological realization is called '**Morph**'

o **Allomorphs:** A single, abstract, 'underlying' morpheme being realized *phonetically* in multiple ways 'on the surface'.

Next class

- Morphological Types of Languages

- Morphological Analysis

- The Internal Structure of Words

Readings:

Section 4.4 and Section 4.5 (of Language-files_Ch-4_Morphology)

Quiz