

# Assignment 4

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Due Oct 8 2013 Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The purpose of this assignment is to practice morphological analysis in English and other languages.

## 1. TYPES OF WORD FORMATION (10 POINTS)

For each of the following English words, indicate the type of word formation process(es) in action (derivational affixation, compounding, acronym, initialism, clipping, blends, backformation, and eponym). Note that a few words involve two of these processes. Identify both.

|     | Word                | Originally from   | Word Formation Process |
|-----|---------------------|---|------------------------|
| 0.  | <b>liger</b>        | lion, tiger   | blend                  |
| 1.  | <b>televisé</b>     | television  |                        |
| 2.  | <b>NASA</b>         | National Aeronautics and Space Administration           |                        |
| 3.  | <b>Phys Ed</b>      | physical education                                      |                        |
| 4.  | <b>Debian</b>       | Ian and Debra Murdock                                   |                        |
| 5.  | <b>MSG</b>          | monosodium glutamate                                    |                        |
| 6.  | <b>mansplaining</b> | man, explaining   |                        |
| 7.  | <b>lase</b>         | light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation |                        |
| 8.  | <b>healthcare</b>   | health, care  |                        |
| 9.  | <b>unbelievable</b> | un-, believe, -able                                     |                        |
| 10. | <b>sharknado</b>    | shark, tornado  |                        |

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**2. DERIVATIONAL AFFIXATION (14 POINTS)**

1. Fill in the table below. Each word in the first column is composed of two morphemes, a (free) root and a (bound) suffix. Split the word into its two morphemes and identify the grammatical category (noun, verb etc.) of the root and the original word.

| Word          | Root   | Category of Root | Suffix | Category of Word |
|---------------|--------|------------------|--------|------------------|
| serenity      | serene | Adjective        | -ity   | Noun             |
| appearance    |        |                  |        |                  |
| performance   |        |                  |        |                  |
| falsify       |        |                  |        |                  |
| amplify       |        |                  |        |                  |
| sadness       |        |                  |        |                  |
| boldness      |        |                  |        |                  |
| runner        |        |                  |        |                  |
| writer        |        |                  |        |                  |
| membership    |        |                  |        |                  |
| companionship |        |                  |        |                  |

2. Draw the morphological structures for *amplify* and *writer*.

## 3. MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS (10 POINTS)

1. Use the data below to fill in the gaps in tables A and B.

| A. Hungarian      | English   | Hungarian          | English            |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------------|--------------------|
| a. <i>anya</i>    | 'mother'  | <i>nagyanya</i>    | 'grandmother'      |
| b. <i>apa</i>     | 'father'  |                    |                    |
| c. <i>betű</i>    |           | <i>nagybetű</i>    | 'capital letter'   |
| d. <i>evő</i>     | 'eater'   | <i>nagyevő</i>     |                    |
| e. <i>hatalom</i> |           | <i>nagyhatalom</i> | 'superpower'       |
| f. <i>ivó</i>     | 'drinker' |                    |                    |
| g. <i>kabát</i>   |           | <i>nagykabát</i>   | 'overcoat'         |
| h. <i>kapu</i>    | 'gate'    |                    | 'carriage gateway' |
| i. <i>kés</i>     |           | <i>nagykés</i>     | 'carving knife'    |
| j. <i>követ</i>   | 'deputy'  |                    | 'ambassador'       |
| B. Hungarian      | English   | Hungarian          | English            |
| a. <i>kanál</i>   | 'spoon'   | <i>kiskanál</i>    | 'teaspoon'         |
| b. <i>ujj</i>     |           |                    | 'pinkie finger'    |
| c. <i>város</i>   | 'town'    |                    |                    |
| d. <i>asszony</i> | 'woman'   |                    | 'Miss'             |

2. Can you establish a single English word as the equivalent of the Hungarian morpheme *nagy*? What is it?3. Can you establish a single English word as the equivalent of the Hungarian morpheme *kis*? What is it?

#### 4. MORPHOLOGICAL STRUCTURE (10 POINTS)

The word *inflammable* often leads to confusion. Although it traditionally means ‘able to catch fire easily’, many people misinterpret the word to mean the opposite, ‘not able to catch fire’. Explain why this misinterpretation happens. Draw the possible morphological structure(s) of the word to support your answer. Hint: The word *flame* can be either a noun or a verb but as the root of this word (in both interpretations), it is a verb.

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Total points: \_\_\_\_\_

## Submission

This assignment should be completed **on this sheet of paper** and handed in to your TA before your tutorial begins on Tuesday, Oct. 8. Please print double-sided to save paper! If you are unable to hand-in the assignment at the tutorial, you will need to hand it into me, in my office hours, before tutorial starts. No late assignments will be accepted.