

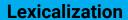
# **Background: Elemental Linguistic Components and Lexicalization**

### **The Candidates**

- A noise deployed in the language
  - [ph] (Phones)
- · A set of noises deployed systematically in a certain way
  - /p/ (Phoneme)
- {-able} (Affixes)
- Words

Opposable

Words are the elemental building blocks from the perspective of language users.





Bird-like-machine-shaped-concave-instrument-for-eating-with

 $\textbf{English} \rightarrow \textbf{airplane spoon}$ 

French → cuillère en forme d'avion

 $German \to flugzeugl\"{o}ffel$ 

Plane/Spoon: wenchiawang/iStock/Thinkstock; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstoc

### **Word Building Processes**



English → airplane spoon

French  $\rightarrow$  cuillère en forme d'avion

 $German \to flugzeugl\"{o}ffel$ 

Where do words come from?

- Simplex (i.e., word, chair, dog)
   No processes visible
  - Complex
- Morphologically (i.e., doggy) (tune in later)
- Compounding (i.e., armchair)
- Conversion (i.e., butter as noun, butter as verb)
- Clipping (i.e., burger)
- Blending (i.e., smog)
- Folk etymologies (i.e., crayfish)

Plane/Spoon: wenchiawang/iStock/Thinkstock; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock/Think

# Compounds

Can occur orthographically as:

# No orthographical indication

wet suit

### Glued together

- greenhouse
- blackboard

### Hyphenated

- child-proof
- father-in-law

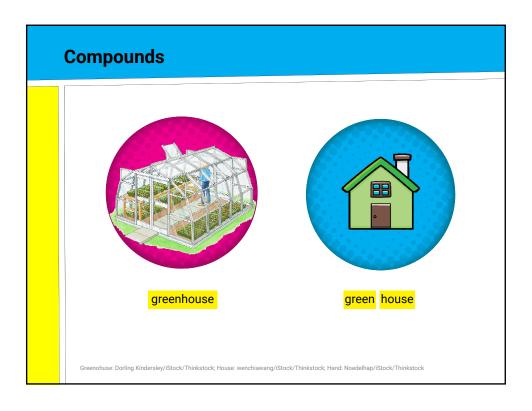
### The semantic test

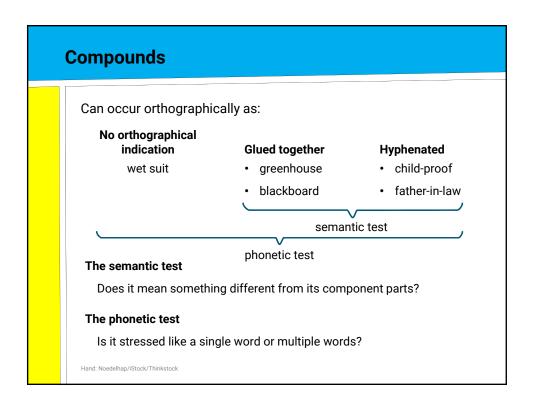
Does it mean something different from its component parts?

### The phonetic test

Is it stressed like a single word or multiple words?

# Compounds Wet súit Wetsuit Scuba Diver: painterr/iStock/Thinkstock; Suit/Cloud: mocoo/iStock/Thinkstock; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock





### **Conversion (Double-dipping)**

One word phonologically functioning in at least two ways.

### Word

Meaning 1 Meaning 2 Meaning 3

.

### Look at the context

butter dirty ship empty
toast clean nail paint

butter (as noun) butter (as verb)
"He put butter on the toast." "He buttered the toast."

NOT "There was buttered on the table."

### Stress patterns

### Verb

permít

Noun
• pérmit

contést

cóntest

survéy

súrvey

Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

### **Clipping**

The form of the word shrinks

### professor $\rightarrow$ prof

 $hamburger \longrightarrow burger$ 

 $demonstration \quad \to demo$ 

submarine  $\rightarrow$  sub

delicatessen → deli

electronic mail  $\rightarrow$  e-mail

World Wide Web → web

 $Internet \hspace{1cm} \to net \\$ 

# Current-usage comparison with parallel terms

- Longer
- Phonologically and conceptually similar

### **Historical comparison**

- Longer
- Phonologically and conceptually similar

### **Acronyms/Abbreviations**

### Pronouncable Letter-enunciation

acronyms Radar CBC Scuba U.S.A. Snafu WWW Fubar PR

### Jargon, Argot, Slang

Related to clipping, in terms of efficiency, but users have to be in, and others are therefore out.

### **Blends**

 $\begin{array}{lll} smoke/fog & \rightarrow smog \\ motor hotel & \rightarrow motel \\ aerobic exercise & \rightarrow aerobicize \\ breakfast/lunch & \rightarrow brunch \\ information/ & \rightarrow infotainment \\ entertainment & \end{array}$ 

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{education/} & & \rightarrow \text{edutainment} \\ \text{entertainment} & & \end{array}$ 

Northern Telecom  $\rightarrow$  NorTel

# Current-usage comparison with parallel terms

- · Multiple words
- Phonologically and conceptually similar

### **Historical comparison**

- · Multiple words
- Phonologically and conceptually similar