

Linguistics - Lesson 10 - 2022/11/29

Division between inflection and derivation is not always black and white, and the criteria are not always uniform.

Differences between inflection and derivation:

derivation

- New words to our vocabulary
- Enrich our mental lexicon
- sometimes changes lexical category
- Transparency - Applies inconsistently to different words, Meaning of derivation is not always clear - -er

inflection

- Changes to our grammar
- No change to lexical category
- Clearer productive rules
- Highly transparent output

Hebrew - suffix -iya

xumus - xumusiya

uga - ugiya

guf - gufiya

ir - iriya

mistreating

The word 'mistreating' is broken down into its constituent morphemes: 'mis', 'treat', and 'ing'. Brackets below identify 'mis' as the prefix, 'treat' as the root, and 'ing' as the suffix. A larger bracket below 'mis' and 'treat' identifies them together as the stem.

-ing - Can be either derivation or inflection

mis- - derivation

1. Change of meaning
2. Productivity - relatively low.

eat - *miseat

3. Transparency -

Seems to be relatively consistent regarding meaning

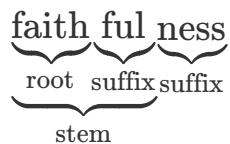
-ing - inflection

1. Change of grammatical feature - aspect
2. No change of lexical category (Verb)
3. High productivity
4. High transparency

-ing - derivation

1. Change of lexical category
Verb -> Noun Mistreating children is abominable

faithfulness



-ful - Derivation

1. Change of meaning
2. Change of lexical category (Noun -> Adjective)
3. Restricted productivity
love -> *loveful
4. relatively restricted transparency

ness - Derivation

1. Change of meaning
2. Change of lexical category (Adjective -> Noun)
3. Restricted productivity
big -> *bigness

Up until now, we talked about the function of the affixes, and have examined only one method of word formation - affixation.

Affixation is only one strategy to form words, there are others:

word formation processes/rules/strategies

- Affixation - Take a base and add a prefix/infix/suffix

- Ablaut/Apophany - Change of vowels

Sing - Song - sung - sang

hebrew: limed - lamad

ximem - hitxamem

to warm X To become warm

- Blending - brunch

Hebrew: ramzor

motel

- Compounding - blackboard

- Low compositionality - The meaning is usually idiomatic

Definition Compositionality

The ability to understand the meaning of the whole, by the meaning of its parts,

Note compound vs construct state

Orech din - Editor of the law - lawyer - compound, idiomatic

orex iton - editor of a newspaper - construct state, compositional

The meaning of the whole is based on its parts