Foundations of Linguistics WiSe 23/24
Morphology & Syntax block --- Assignment I: Morphology

Question 1: Complete the table:

	number of morphemes	**root**	**word formation?**	**inflectional?**
only				
unpacked				
bookshops				
healthier				
disappearing				
coldest				
pinkish				
mispronounces				
uglification				
reenergizabilities				

Question 2: Which morphological processes are at work in the following?
a. drink > drank
b. un- + rely + -able > unreliable
c. wind + shield > windshield
d. good > better
e. a construct (N) > to construct (V)
f. refrigerator > fridge
g. The soldiers pledged their allegiance to the Crown.

Question 3: Pick one of the two questions below:
A. Two approaches to morphological rules. Haspelmath & Sims (2010) discuss two approaches to morphological rules: the morpheme-based model and the word-based model.

a. Give short definitions of both models; focusing on how they differ.
b. Give one advantage and one disadvantage of both the morpheme-based model AND the word-based model, including examples *not taken from the book*.
c. Based on a. & b., present your personal assessment of the value of each model.

B. Do inflection and derivation represent distinct subsystems? Haspelmath & Sims (2010) discuss eleven properties of inflection and derivation in order to answer the question in bold, we also discussed these in class.

a. Rank all eleven properties in order of importance and present arguments for your ordering.
b. Answer the question, 'do inflection and derivation represent distinct subsystems?' in light of your ranking, bearing also on examples *not taken from the book*.

Question 4: Draw (all possible) tree diagrams for the following words:
a. impossible
c. activity
d. unzippable
b. unfriendly
e. unfriended (as in, "Lisa unfriended me.")

Question 5: Group work on the morphology of an language you don't know

I have divided you into four groups:
Group 1: Hanna, Nadia, David
Group 2: Larisa, Mark, Yuan
Group 3: Yash, Aleksandra, Yana
Group 4: Samuel, Niranjana, Harsha, Anthony

To work on these four languages:

Group 1: Tamashek;	heath_tamashek2005_s.pdf
Group 2: Basque;	hualde_basque2003_o.pdf
Group 3: Emai;	schaefer-egbokhare_emai2017_o.pdf
Group 4: Tundra Nenets;	nikolaeva_tundra-nenets2014.pdf

The pdfs can be found on Teams under Files/Documents/Morphology and Syntax.

Please answer the following questions. The first part of this assignment (Q1-4) is individual work, this question (Q5) is group work, so group members can hand in identical answers only for this question. Please include examples whenever you can, these can also be screenshots pasted into Word, etc., don't go through trouble making things pretty.

a. **Nominal morphology**: Does the noun carry inflection in your language? If yes, for which inflectional categories? If there are any paradigms given, please include an example. Otherwise, try to construct your own paradigm. How many cells does the paradigm have? It will be relevant to consider if there are nominal declensions in the language.

b. **Verbal morphology**: Make a list of the inflectional categories that may be marked on the verb. See for details Chapter 22 of WALS, "Inflectional Synthesis of the Verb" (https://wals.info/chapter/22). How many inflectional categories are marked on the verb of your language? How does your language compare with the typology of the WALS chapter mentioned above?

c. Which of the following (inflectional and/or derivational) **morphological patterns** are attested in your language? Add examples. If various types of a single morphological pattern are attested, you can describe several of them.
   i. affixation (there may be a lot of affixation - suffice here with an impressionistic characterization of preference for prefixing vs. suffixing)
   ii. compounding (are there different types of compounds?)
   iii. base modification
   iv. reduplication
   v. conversion

d. Give a short characterization of your language in terms of the **morphological typological framework** by Sapir (1921) and Bickel and Nichols (2007) (see class 3), i.e. the parameters synthesis, fusion, flexivity, and exponence.