

**MORPHOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION OF WORDS. WORD FAMILIES AIMS AND
PRINCIPLES OF MORPHEMIC AND WORD FORMATION ANALYSES**

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Annotation: *The article provides a comprehensive overview of the theme of morphological classification of words. It delves into the concept of word families, which are formed by adding prefixes or suffixes to a base word. The study of word families is important for understanding the relationship between words and their meanings. The article also discusses the aims and principles of morphemic and word formation analyses. These methods involve breaking down words into smaller units called morphemes and examining the processes through which new words are created. By studying these principles, linguists can gain insights into how meaning is conveyed. Overall, this article highlights the significance of understanding the internal structure and formation of words in order to comprehend the complexity and beauty of human communication. It serves as a valuable resource for anyone interested in linguistics and language studies.*

Key words: *Morpheme, free morpheme, bound morpheme, word families, word groups, root, stems, suffix, affixes, base word, prefix, compounding, affixation, conversion.*

If we describe a word as an autonomous unit of language in which a particular meaning is associated with a particular sound complex and which is capable of a particular grammatical employment and able to form a sentence by itself, we have the possibility to distinguish it from the other fundamental language unit, namely, the morpheme.

A morpheme is also an association of a given meaning with a given sound pattern. But unlike a word it is not autonomous. Morphemes occur in speech only as constituent parts of words, not independently, although a word may consist of a single morpheme. Nor are they divisible into smaller meaningful units. That is why the morpheme may be defined as the minimum meaningful language unit. According to the role they play in constructing words, morphemes are subdivided into roots and affixes. The latter are further subdivided, according to their position, into prefixes, suffixes and infixes, and according to their function and meaning, into derivational and functional affixes, the latter also called endings or outer formatives.

Roots are main morphemic vehicles of a given idea in a given language at a given stage of its development. A root may be also regarded as the ultimate constituent element which remains after the removal of all functional and derivational affixes and does not admit any further analysis. It is the common element of words within a word-family. Thus, -heart- is the common root of the following series of words: heart, hearten, dishearten, heartily, heartless, hearty, heartiness, sweetheart, heart-broken, kind-hearted, wholeheartedly, etc. In some of these, as, for example, in hearten, there is only one root; in others the root -heart is combined with some other root, thus forming a compound like sweetheart.

A suffix is a derivational morpheme following the stem and forming a new derivative in a different part of speech or a different word class. For example, "-en", "-y", "-less" in hearten, hearty, heartless. When both the underlying and the resultant forms belong to the same part of speech, the suffix serves to differentiate between lexico-grammatical classes by rendering some very general lexico-grammatical meaning. For instance, both -ify and -er are verb suffixes, but the first characterises causative verbs, such as horrify, purify, rarefy, simplify, whereas the second is mostly typical of frequentative verbs: flicker, shimmer, twitter and the like.

A prefix is a derivational morpheme standing before the root and modifying meaning, cf. hearten dishearten. It is only with verbs and stative verbs that a prefix may serve to distinguish one part of speech from another, like in earth n unearth v, sleep n asleep (stative). It is interesting that as a prefix en- may carry the same meaning of being or bringing into a certain state as the suffix -en, cf. enable, encamp, endanger, endear, enslave and fasten, darken, deepen, lengthen, strengthen.

An infix is an affix placed within the word, like -n- in stand. The type is not productive.

An affix should not be confused with a combining form. A combining form is also a bound form but it can be distinguished from an affix historically by the fact that it is always borrowed from another language, namely, from Latin or Greek, in which it existed as a free form, i.e. a separate word, or also as a combining form. They differ from all other borrowings in that they occur in compounds and derivatives that did not exist in their original language but were formed only in modern times in English, Russian, French, etc., cf. polyclinic, polymer; stereophonic, stereoscopic, telemechanics, television. Combining forms are mostly international. Descriptively a combining form differs from an affix, because it can occur as one constituent of a form whose only other constituent is an affix, as in graphic, cyclic. Also affixes are characterised either by preposition with respect to the root (prefixes) or by postposition (suffixes), whereas the same combining form may occur in both positions. Cf. phonograph, phonology and telephone, microphone, etc.

When a derivational or functional affix is stripped from the word, what remains is a stem (or stem base).

The stem expresses the lexical and the part of speech meaning. For the word hearty and for the paradigm heart (sing.) — hearts (pl.) the stem may be represented as heart-

This stem is a single morpheme, it contains nothing but the root, so it is a simple stem. It is also a free stem because it is homonymous to the word heart.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING PRINCIPLES OF MORPHEMIC AND WORD FORMATION ANALYSES

The theme of morphological classification of words is an essential aspect of linguistics that helps us understand the structure and formation of words. It plays a crucial role in language analysis and aids in the comprehension and interpretation of various texts. Morphological classification involves categorizing words based on their structure and form. It focuses on identifying and analysing the smallest meaningful units within words known as morphemes. Morphemes can be classified into two main categories: free morphemes and bound morphemes. Free morphemes are independent and can stand alone as words such as "book" or "run". Bound morphemes, on the other hand, must be attached to other morphemes to convey meaning. Examples of bound morphemes include prefixes like "un-" or suffixes like "-able". Word families are groups of words that share a common root or base word. They are formed by adding prefixes or suffixes to the base word, resulting in related words with similar meanings. For instance, the word family of "happy" includes "happiness", "unhappy" and "happily". Analyzing word families helps us understand how words are related and provides insights into their meanings and usage. It allows us to identify patterns and regularities in language, as well as uncover the underlying principles of word formation. By examining the morphological structure of words within a family, linguistics can gain insights into how meaning is conveyed through the addition or alteration.

Morphemic analysis is a method used to identify and analyze morphemes within words. It involves breaking down a word into its constituent morphemes and determining their individual meaning. For example, the word "unhappiness" can be analyzed into three morphemes: "-in" (a prefix meaning not), "happy" (the base word), and "-ness" (a suffix indicating a state or quality). By analyzing the morphemes, we can understand that "unhappiness" refers to the state of not being happy. Word formation analysis, on the other hand, focuses on the processes through which new words are created. It involves examining the various ways in which morphemes can be combined or altered to form a new word. These processes can include affixation (the addition of prefixes or suffixes), compounding (the combination of two or more words), conversion (the change of word class without any affixation), and many others. The principles of Morphemic and word formation analysis involve several key concepts. One principle is derivation which involves adding affixes to create new words with different meanings or word classes. For instance the verb "teach" can be derived into the noun "teacher" or the adjective "teachable" by adding appropriate affixes.

Additionally, Morphemic and Word formation analyses consider inflection, which involves adding grammatical markers to a word to indicate tense, number, gender or case. For example, the plural form of "book" is "books" where the "-s" suffix indicates

more than one book. These analyses also examine compounding, which involves combining two or more words to create a new word with a distinct meaning. An example of compounding is "blackboard" which combines the words "black" and "board" to refer to a specific type of writing surface.

The aims of Morphemic and word formation analyses are to uncover the underlying structure of words and examine how new words are formed. These analyses focus on identifying morphemes and studying their functions and meanings. By breaking down words into their constituent morphemes, linguists can gain a deeper understanding of how words are constructed and how they contribute to overall meaning.

In conclusion, the study of morphological classification of words is essential for understanding how words are formed and organized in a language. By identifying different types of morphemes, understanding word formation processes, and recognizing word families, we can gain a deeper understanding of the structure and meaning of words in a language. This knowledge can also be applied to language learning and teaching, as well as other fields such as linguistics and lexicography. As we break the word we obtain at any level only two ICs, one of which is the stem of the given word. All the time the analysis is based on the patterns characteristic of the English vocabulary. Now we can make one more conclusion, namely, that in lexicological analysis words may be grouped not only according to their root morphemes but according to affixes as well.

The whole procedure of the analysis into immediate constituents is reduced to the recognition and classification of same and different morphemes and same and different word patterns. This is precisely why it permits the tracing and understanding of the vocabulary system.

The theme of morphological classification of words encompasses the study of word families, as well as the aims and principles of morphemic and word formation analyses. By examining the internal structure and formation of words, linguists can gain valuable insights into how language works and how meaning is conveyed. These analyses provide a foundation for understanding the structure and functioning of language systems, allowing us to better appreciate the complexity and beauty of human communication.

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