

September 21, 2005

EXERCISES:

ENGLISH WORD DIVISION

1. Analyze the following words into morphs using the model given below:

		Prefix(es)	Root	Suffix(es)
<u>Example:</u>	<i>inequality</i>	in-	equal	-ity
(a)	hospitalization		(k)	dysfunctional
(b)	invisibly		(l)	inconsiderate
(c)	uninteresting		(m)	postcolonial
(d)	undercooked		(n)	unlikelihood
(e)	transcontinental		(o)	relationship
(f)	ungrammatical		(p)	asymmetrical
(g)	reinforcement		(q)	hypersensitivity
(h)	prototypical		(r)	unfriendliness
(i)	unforgettable		(s)	interdependence
(j)	impropriety		(t)	monotheism

2. Is *-ly* an inflectional or a derivational affix?

Like an inflectional affix, it seems to attach to many (though not all) the members of the class of adjective, as in *quickly, helpfully, sadly, regretably, softly, sharply, foolishly*. If *-ly* is an inflectional suffix marking the grammatical category adverb, then it should meet the following criteria for inflectional suffixes:

- never change the part of speech of a root,
- follow, not precede, any derivational suffixes,
- affix to virtually any member of the category adjective.

Does *-ly* meet these criteria? Try to think of examples which violate these principles.

WRITING MORPHEMIC RULES

1. Examine the following past tense forms in English:

<i>hated</i>	<i>pulled</i>	<i>roared</i>	<i>walked</i>
<i>raided</i>	<i>opened</i>	<i>hugged</i>	<i>pushed</i>
<i>faded</i>	<i>groomed</i>	<i>robbed</i>	<i>missed</i>

<i>fitted</i>	<i>mowed</i>	<i>bruised</i>	<i>hoped</i>
<i>mated</i>	<i>cried</i>	<i>loved</i>	<i>fetches</i>
<i>loaded</i>	<i>paid</i>	<i>judges</i>	<i>laughs</i>

- Determine the allomorphs of this inflectional suffix.
- Determine the conditioning environments for each of the allomorphs.
- Decide on the underlying (or “elsewhere”) form of this morpheme from which the other allomorphs are derived. For what reasons did you choose this particular form as the base?
- Write a morphemic rule.
- Consider the following past tense forms. How are they conditioned? How are they realized?

<i>sang</i>	<i>bought</i>	<i>cut</i>	<i>went</i>
<i>rang</i>	<i>fought</i>	<i>put</i>	<i>were</i>

2. Consider the following words:

<i>illegal</i>	<i>ineligible</i>	<i>inactive</i>	<i>imbibe</i>
<i>irrelevant</i>	<i>intolerant</i>	<i>indeterminate</i>	<i>immature</i>
<i>impossible</i>	<i>insecure</i>	<i>illogical</i>	<i>irregular</i>
<i>immoral</i>	<i>infamous</i>	<i>imbalance</i>	<i>injudicious</i>
<i>impatient</i>	<i>injury</i>	<i>ingrate</i>	<i>incongruous</i>

- Determine the allomorphs of this derivational prefix.
- Determine the conditioning factors for each of the allomorphs.
- Decide on the underlying (or “elsewhere”) form of this morpheme from which the other allomorphs are derived. Justify the base form.
- Write a morphemic rule.
- State the meaning of the morpheme.
- Why are the forms *ignoble* and *ignominious*, which presumably contain the same prefix, a problem? Try to account for this problem. (Hint: Look up the etymologies of these words.)

3. Consider the following words:

<i>collect</i>	<i>cohabit</i>	<i>collide</i>	<i>compare</i>
<i>correct</i>	<i>coalesce</i>	<i>corrode</i>	<i>condemn</i>
<i>connect</i>	<i>collate</i>	<i>confess</i>	<i>compute</i>
<i>commute</i>	<i>commend</i>	<i>cohere</i>	<i>consent</i>
<i>combat</i>	<i>contend</i>	<i>coexist</i>	<i>coincide</i>

- Determine the allomorphs of this derivational prefix.
- Write a morphemic rule specifying underlying form, allomorphs, and environments.
- State the meaning of the morpheme, if possible.