

## HO 5 Types of words

Words tend to be important units phonologically as well as syntactically.

- **Phonological words**

Stress assignment is an important part in deciding word boundary.

Primary stress is on the third from the final syllable

o ánth ropos

Modern Greek

‘the person’

b. o ánth ropòs mas

‘our person’

### **Grammatical words**

The term grammatical word or morpho-syntactic word is virtually synonymous with word but is generally used to refer specifically to different forms of a single word that occur depending on the syntactic context.

For example, that rabbit and rabbits are tokens of the same word. But they absolutely must be different grammatical words.

### **Orthographic word**

Word is an orthographically autonomous word i.e uninterrupted series of letters with spaces in between and separated from other series of letters by blank spaces.

- a) Militarism
- b) To kick the bucket
- c) Truck driver

- Empirical Tests for Wordhood

### **Fixed order of elements**

Our first empirical test has to do with the fixed order of elements within a word.

Morphologically complex word like unbreakable. We can't say *breakableun* or *unablebreak*.

### **Non-separability and integrity**

Words differ from larger units, such as phrases, in that they cannot be broken up by the insertion of segmental or phrasal material.

Likewise, syntactic processes cannot apply to pieces of words. This is integrity.

\*Possible, it's im-.

Doghouse but not \*dogshouse

Greenhouse but !! Green house does not mean the green house effect.

### Words as syntactic atoms

Words are the smallest units syntax can manipulate.

Their internal structure is not accessible to syntax.

They are the smallest units.

Ex → \*how military- did John propose some –ism?

**This is known as Generalized Lexicalist hypothesis.**

### The debate on the existence of morpheme

### Not all theories believe in the existence of morphemes

Theories that accept existence of morphemes are called Item and arrangement.

In these theories the lexicon contains a list of individual morphemes.

Take *accepted*

- A. the minimal units accept, a root and –ed a suffix
- B. The suffix –ed is paired with the meaning past
- C. The root accept is paired with the meaning ‘receive willingly’
- D. They combine together in order to construct a word, specifically a verb from in the past tense as in  
Accept + -ed

### Item and process

Theories that do not acknowledge the existence of morphemes

Divided in two classes, the first is called Item and Process

The basic unit in this framework is called a root – LEXEME

The analysis of *accepted* as per this

- a. the minimal unit that can be identified here is *accept*, a lexeme
- b. the lexeme undergoes a process: past tense formation
- c. the operation is marked by a change in the phonological shape of the lexeme, in this case adding of the sequence /ed/ at the end of lexeme
- d. the operation is now viewed as a function that takes a lexeme and gives a new form as a result
  - i. past (*accept*) = *accepted*

### Difference between IA and IP

Affixes are considered as separate heads and clear in IA, accounts for irregularity

*sang* comprises of *sing*+past tense

The grammatical property [past] is represented here by a morpheme without the phonological content

The root *sing*, when combined with this –Φ must appear as the allomorph *sang*.

Nida observed that this analysis is problematic.

in *sang* there is no overt morpheme for past tense.

IP doesn't pose a problem as per this approach as there is no motivation for affixes separately.

- a. there is only one morpheme the lexeme sing
- b. an operation (past) applies to sing
- c. the operation changes the lexeme changing its vowel
  - i. past(sing) = sang

***Mismatch between grammatical features and exponents***

IA theories assume morphemes are pairs of form and grammatical meaning.

Not always straight forward

Sing – sang

Null morphemes postulated, morpheme with no phonological shape.

Cranberry morphemes

Cranberry strawberry gooseberry

cran is not recurrent nor meaningful