

MORPHEMES LEVEL AND TYPES OF MORPHEMES

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ABSTRACT

In this article we can see the types of morphemes and difference between morphemes. And also classify semantic structure of linguistic units. Like a word a morpheme is a lexical unit. Morphemes occur in speech only as parts of a word so word consists of single morpheme

Keywords: *meaning sound, structural, affixes, root, position, observe, lexical, derivational, semi-free, semantically, occur*

АННОТАЦИЯ

В этой статье мы можем увидеть типы морфем и разницу между морфемами. А также классифицируйте семантический состав языковых единиц. Как и слово, морфема - это лексическая единица. Морфемы встречаются в речи только как части слова, поэтому слово состоит из одной морфемы.

Ключевые слова: *означающий звук, структурный, аффиксы, корень, положение, наблюдение, лексическое, словообразовательное, полусвободное, семантическое, встречаются.*

INTRODUCTION

What are Morphemes?

Definition

A "morpheme" is a short segment of language that meets three basic criteria:

1. It is a word or a part of a word that has meaning.
2. It cannot be divided into smaller meaningful segments without changing its meaning or leaving a meaningless remainder.
3. It has relatively the same stable meaning in different verbal environments.

Free and Bound Morphemes

There are two types of morphemes-free morphemes and bound morphemes. "Free morphemes" can stand alone with a specific meaning, for example, eat, date, weak. "Bound morphemes" cannot stand alone with

meaning. Morphemes are comprised of two separate classes called (a) bases (or roots) and (b) affixes.

A "base," or "root" is a morpheme in a word that gives the word its principle meaning. An example of a "free base" morpheme is woman in the word womanly. An example of a "bound base" morpheme is -sent in the word dissent.

Affixes

An "affix" is a bound morpheme that occurs *before* or after a base. An affix that comes before a base is called a "prefix." Some examples of prefixes are ante-, pre-, un-, and dis-, as in the following words:

Antedate prehistoric

Unhealthy

disregard

An affix that comes after a base is called a "suffix." Some examples of suffixes are -ly, -er, -ism, and -ness, as in the following words:

Happily gardener capitalism kindness

Derivational Affixes

An affix can be either derivational or inflectional. "Derivational affixes" serve to alter the meaning of a word by building on a base. In the examples of words with prefixes and suffixes above, the addition of the prefix un- to healthy alters the meaning of healthy. The resulting word means "not healthy." The addition of the suffix -er to garden changes the meaning of garden, which is a place where plants, flowers, etc., grow, to a word that refers to 'a person who tends a garden.' It should be noted that *all* prefixes in English are derivational. However, suffixes may be either derivational or inflectional.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

Inflectional Affixes

There are a large number of derivational affixes in English. In contrast, there are only eight "inflectional affixes" in English, and these are all suffixes. English has the following inflectional suffixes, which serve a variety of grammatical functions when added to specific types of words. These grammatical functions are shown to the right of each suffix.

-s noun plural -'s noun possessive -s verb present tense third person singular -ing verb present participle/gerund -ed verb simple past tense -en verb past perfect participle -er adjective comparative

There are two levels of approach to the study of word- structure: the level of morphemic analysis and the level of derivational or word-formation analysis. Word is the principal and basic unit of the language system, the largest on the morphologic and the smallest on the syntactic plane of linguistic analysis. Like a word a morpheme is a lexical unit.

The morpheme is the smallest meaningful unit of form. Unlike a word a morpheme is not autonomous. Like a word it has a certain sound-form. Morphemes occur in speech only as constituent parts of words, not independently, although a word may consist of single morpheme.

Morphemes may be classified from the semantic point of view and the structural point of view. Semantically morphemes fall into: root-morphemes (roots, non-root[affixes]) and affixational morphemes.

Structurally morphemes fall into free - if it may stand alone without changing its meaning bound morphemes. – are always parts of words, they never occur alone.

semi-free or semi-bound morphemes. – are Morphemes that can function in a morphemic sequence both as an affix and as a free morpheme (well, half)

It should also be noted that morphemes may have different phonemic shapes. In the word-cluster please , pleasing , pleasure , pleasant the phonemic shapes of the word stand in complementary distribution or in alternation with each other. All the representations of the given morpheme, that manifest alternation are called allomorphs.

Allomorph is defined as a positional variant of a morpheme occurring in a specific environment and so characterized by complementary description.

Complementary distribution is said to take place, when two linguistic variants cannot appear in the same environment.

Types of Meaning It is generally assumed that one of the semantic features of some morphemes which distinguishes them from words is that they do not possess grammatical meaning. Comparing the word man, e.g., and the morpheme man-(in manful, manly, etc.) we see that we cannot find in this morpheme the grammatical meaning of case and number observed in the word man.

1. Many English words consist of a single root-morpheme, so when we say that most morphemes possess lexical meaning we imply mainly the root-morphemes in such words. It may be easily observed that the lexical meaning of the word boy and

the lexical meaning of the root-morpheme boy — in such words as boyhood, boyish and others.

2. The lexical meaning of the affixal morphemes is, as a rule, of a more generalising character. It should also be noted that the root-morphemes do not “possess the part-of-speech meaning (cf. manly, manliness, to man); in derivational morphemes the lexical and the part-of-speech meaning may be so blended as to be almost inseparable.

3. Besides the types of meaning proper both to words and morphemes the latter may possess specific meanings of their own, namely the differential and the distributional meanings. Differential meaning is the semantic component that serves to distinguish one word from all others containing identical morphemes. In words consisting of two or more morphemes, one of the constituent morphemes always has differential meaning. Roots are composed of only one morpheme, while stems can be composed of more than one morpheme. Any additional affixes are considered morphemes. For example, in the word *quirkiness*, the root is *quirk*, but the stem is *quirky*, which has two morphemes.

Moreover, some pairs of affixes have the same phonological form but have a different meaning. For example, the suffix *-er* can be either derivative (e.g. *sell* ⇒ *seller*) or inflectional (e.g. *small* ⇒ *smaller*). Such morphemes are called homophones.

CONCLUSION

Some words might seem to be composed of multiple morphemes but are not. Therefore, not only form but also meaning must be considered when identifying morphemes. For example, the word *relate* might seem to be composed of two morphemes, *re-* (prefix) and the word *late*, but it is not. Those morphemes have no relationship with the definitions relevant to the word like "to feel sympathy," "to narrate," or "to be connected by blood or marriage." By contrast, the word *rename* does consist of two morphemes; here the morpheme *re-* indicates that the action "name" is done again.

Furthermore, the length of a word does not determine whether or not it has multiple morphemes. The word *Madagascar* is long and might seem to have morphemes like *mad*, *gas*, and *car*, but it does not. Conversely, some short words have multiple morphemes (e.g. *dogs* = *dog* + *s*

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