

**WAYS OF WORD FORMATION. STRUCTURAL PECULIARITIES OF LEXICON.  
TYPES OF ROOT AND AFFIXAL MORPHEMES.**

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**ANNOTATION**

This article deals with the analysis of word formation, structural peculiarities of lexicon. Types of root and affixal morphemes.

**KEY WORDS:** word formation, morphemes, lexicon, root, affixal, What are Morphemes? Coinage, Borrowing, Compounding, Blending, Clipping, Backformation, Conversion, Acronyms, Derivation.

**Word Formation in English**

The English language has a natural acumen for combining words to create powerfully evocative phrases. Examples include sunstroke, pick-pocketing, elbow-room, land-lord, hummingbird, and a variety of other things. When there are two pieces to a compound word, they are normally separated by a period. Nevertheless, in the case of several often used compound words, the component components have grown so intimately linked that they are now written as a single word, with no hyphen or other separator between them. Examples include: sunstroke, a landlord, a pickpocket, an overload, and so forth. For certain other compound nouns, total integration has been achieved through the modification of one or both of the component elements.

The word pass time, for example, is now written as pastime. In the same way, a holy day has been transformed into a holiday, and a prime rose has been transformed into a primrose. Word Formation Examples: To emphasise something implies to draw attention to it or demonstrate that it is significant. We might emphasise the importance of a concept by emphasising its importance or by describing it thoroughly. Speaking emphatically is stating things in a clear and unambiguous (and typically loud) manner. There is no room for ambiguity in this situation. To employ someone is usually synonymous with providing them with a job and compensating them for their efforts.

If you take the verb (achieve) and add the suffix -er, you will get the noun for someone who achieves success. In the case of a person who is excessively focused on achievement, use the prefix over-. For one adjective, add the suffix -able to the verb, and for a second adjective, add the negative prefix un- to the verb before the suffix. We can utilise the verb to excite to create three different types of adjectives (with the suffixes '-able,' '-ed,' and '-ing,' respectively), as well as their negative counterparts. Excitedly and exciteably are two adverbs that are derived from the word excitement. We can accomplish the same thing with a variety of other verbs as well.

Types of Word Formation: Coinage, Borrowing, Compounding, Blending, Clipping, Backformation, Conversion, Acronyms, Derivation.

Coinage: Making up entirely new words Kleenex, Xerox, and Kodak are examples of product names that have been extended from a specific reference to a more general one. Eponyms

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are words that are based on the name of a person or a location. Sandwich, jeans, and watt, for example.

**Borrowing** :Taking words from another language and putting them in your own. Many Latin and French words have been borrowed into English. A leak (Dutch) Bar-b-que (Spanish) Piano is a musical instrument (Italian) settee (Arabic) Croissants are a type of pastry (French) Yogurt is a delicious dairy product (Turkish) Arabic also borrowed many English words, such as television, radio, and supermarket. Calque or loan-translation A phrase that has been translated into another language.

**Compounding**: Two or more words joined together to form a new word.

Examples: Home + work homework (N) Pick + pocket pickpocket (N) Low + paid low-paid (Adj). Note: The meaning of a compound is Not always the sum of the meanings of Its parts. Coconut oil oil made from coconuts. Olive oil oil made from olives.

**Blending**: Blending is similar to compounds, except just parts of the words are merged.

Examples: Motor + hotel Motel. Breakfast + lunch Brunch. Smoke + fog smog  
Teleprinter + exchange telex

**Clipping**: Removing one or more syllables from a word to make it shorter

Examples: Facsimile fax. Hamburger burger. Gasoline gas. Advertisement ad.

**Backformation**: Removing one or more syllables from a word to make it shorter

Examples: Editor edit. Television televise. Babysitter babysit

Note: backformation always involve reduction (changing the form of the word)

**Conversion**: Adding a new syntactic category to an already existing term.

Examples: Butter (N) V to butter the bread. Permit (V) N an entry permit

Empty (A) V to empty the litter-bin. Must (V) N doing the homework is a Must

Microwave (N) V. Acronyms: Words formed by combining the initials of multiple words.

Example: National Aeronautics and Space Agency NASA, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. UNICEF: United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural. Organization UNESCO. Compact Disc CD

**Derivation**: The highly common word formation process.

**Affixes**. Examples: Happy unhappy, happiness. Arrange rearrange. Prefixes vs. suffixes. Infixes inside the word. Tell them I've gone to Singabloodypore!

#### **What is the structure of a lexicon?**

The default structure of a new lexicon is a basic LMF structure and consists of the LexicalEntry data component which, in its turn consists of two data containers: Form (with the by default introduced data category Lexeme) and Sense.

**Defining lexicon structure**: In LEXUS lexica consist of their structure and content. You will always need to define a structure for your lexicon before you can add content to it (i.e. lexical entries). The default structure of a new lexicon is a basic LMF structure and consists of the LexicalEntry data component which, in its turn consists of two data containers: Form (with the by default introduced data category Lexeme) and Sense (see Figure 1.1). As explained before, data containers are holders for data categories, which are in turn the actual value holders. You could compare this to a computer file system. The data containers are the folders and the data categories are the files, which hold their content. It is up to you to decide what you would want the structure of your lexicon to be. Group data categories which relate to the form of the lexical entry under Form (e.g. orthography, image, plural markers etc.) and data categories related to meaning under

Sense (e.g. gloss, definition). It is possible to move the elements within the structure (but only within the same data container). To move the elements you need to drag and drop them into a desired location in the tree.

**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. **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
- est adjective superlative

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