

# *Morphology 1*

Ling400

# *Morphology and word structure*

- **Words and Lexical Categories**
  - Verb, noun, adjective, etc.
- **Morphology is the study of the internal structure of words**
  - Free & bound morphemes
  - Affixes
  - Derivational and inflectional morphology

# *Words and Morphemes*

- **Morpheme**: the minimal meaningful unit of a language; it may be **free** (i.e. can stand by itself or **bound** (i.e. must be attached to another morpheme) e.g. books = book (free) + s (bound)
- **Word**: a minimum free form
  - A word contains at least one morpheme and can contain two or more morphemes
  - e.g. walked = walk + ed

# *Free and bound*

- boy
- correct
- standard
- free
- small
- walk
- + ish
- + ness
- sub +
- + ly
- + er
- + ed

# *How many morphemes?*

- grammar
- meaningful
  - mean + ing + ful
- antidisestablishmentarianism
  - anti+dis+establish+ment+arian+ism

# Affixes

- Prefixes
  - un +
  - sub +
  - anti + etc.
- Suffixes
  - + ic
  - + ish
  - + ed etc.
- Infixes (Bontoc)
  - [fikas] ‘strong’
  - [fumikas] ‘strengthen’
  - [kumilad] ‘redden’
  - What is the morpheme for ‘red’?

# *Words and Lexical Categories*

- Lexical categories = parts of speech
- Noun: test “The \_\_\_\_ is good.”
- Verb: test “They \_\_\_\_ (us/him/her/it).”
- Adjective: test “John is \_\_\_\_.”

TODAY'S SPECIAL

Grammar  
ROCK

...50  
S...1.00  
...1.25  
T...1.00  
...1.50

SANDWI  
TUNA..  
EGG SAL  
PEANUT  
LIVERW  
CHEESE

# Adjectives

- Monomorphemic: *tall, small, dumb, thin, short, fat, big, fresh, dry, flat, soggy, pretty, scary, ugly*
- *foggy, stinky, sunny, brainy, rainy, muddy, hairy, rocky, sandy, cloudy, bumpy, flowery*  
Morphological rule: N + [i] = A
- But this does not always work: *\*roofy, \*booky, \*chairy*

# *Allomorphs*

- The past tense morpheme -ed is pronounced in several different ways:
  - kicked [t]
  - loved [d]
  - invited [əd]
- They are allomorphs of the same “past tense” morpheme

# *Cranberry Morphemes (or Bound Roots)*

- Part(s) of a word that look like morphemes but do not have a clear meaning
  - cran- (cranberry), huckle- (huckleberry), boysen- (boysenberry)
  - luke- (luke-warm)
  - -ceive (receive, conceive, deceive, perceive)

# *Derivational and Inflectional Morphology*

- Typical inflectional morpheme *-ed* (past tense)
  - does not change the part of speech
  - very productive
- Typical derivational morpheme *-ish*
  - change the part of speech (Noun → Adj.)
  - not very productive
  - bookish, selfish, \*deskish, \*lampish
  - (Not all derivational morphemes change part of speech: e.g. re- as in re-start)

# *Inflectional morphology*

- Grammatical; no category change
- English: only eight bound inflectional affixes:
  - -s 3 pers. sing. present V; plural or poss. N  
*waits, cakes, Don's*
  - -ed past (participle) V *waited* ; -en participle V *eaten*
  - -ing progressive, present participle V *waiting*
  - -er, -est comparative., superlative. *taller, tallest*

# *Derivational Morphology*

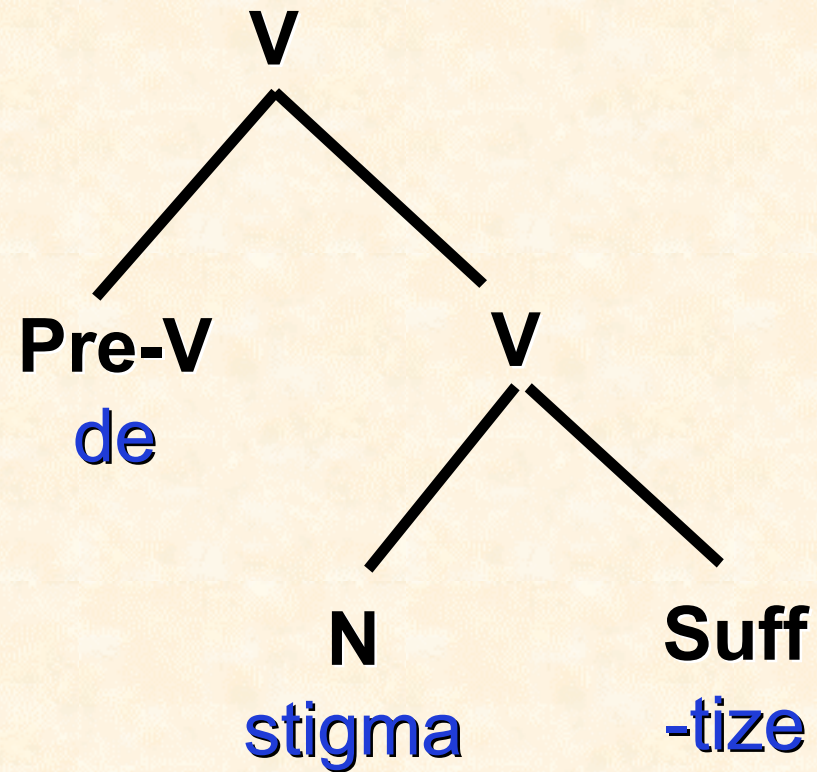
- It often changes part of speech (but not necessary: *start* and *restart* (both verbs))
- *-ment* as in *establishment*, *achievement*, *assignment*
- V + ment = N (or N → V -ment)
- *-ly* as in *quickly*, *clearly*, *gladly*
- Adj. + ly = Adv (or Adv → Adj -ly)

# *Content vs. Function*

## *Morphemes*

- Content Morphemes  
nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs  
bound roots (e.g. luke in *lukewarm*),  
derivational affixes
- Function Morphemes  
determiners, prepositions, pronouns,  
conjunctions, inflectional affixes

# *Morpheme hierarchy*



# *Affixation Rules in English*

Adj → V -able      e.g. readable

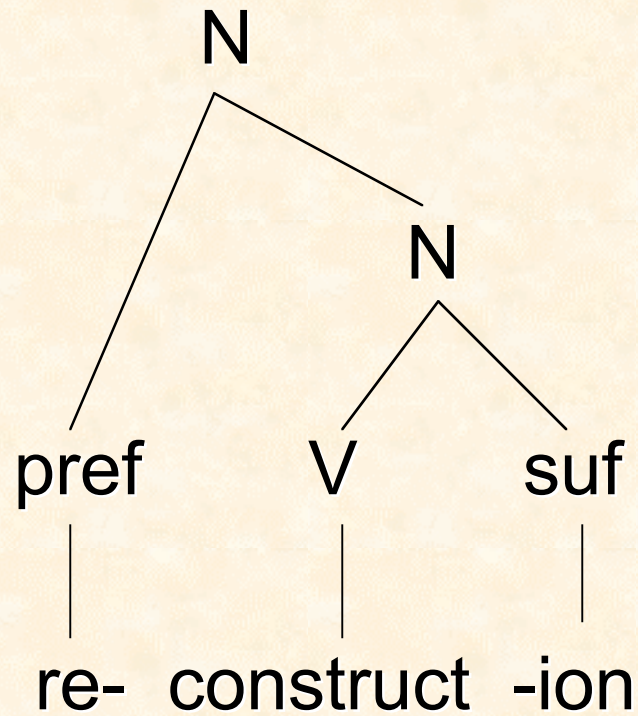
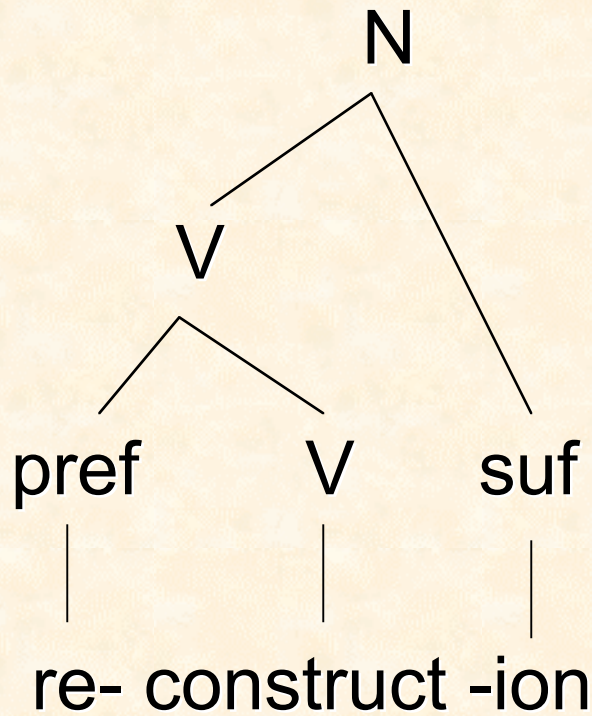
V → un- V          e.g. undo

Adj. → un- Adj      e.g. unhappy

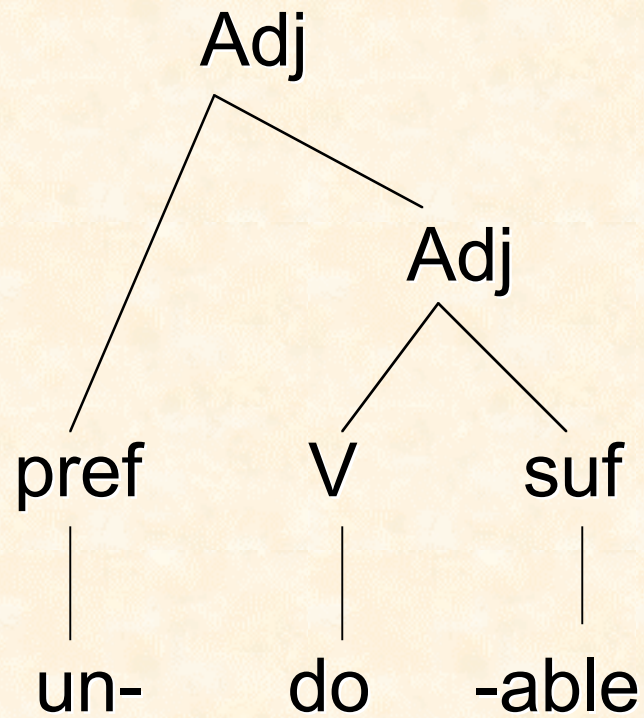
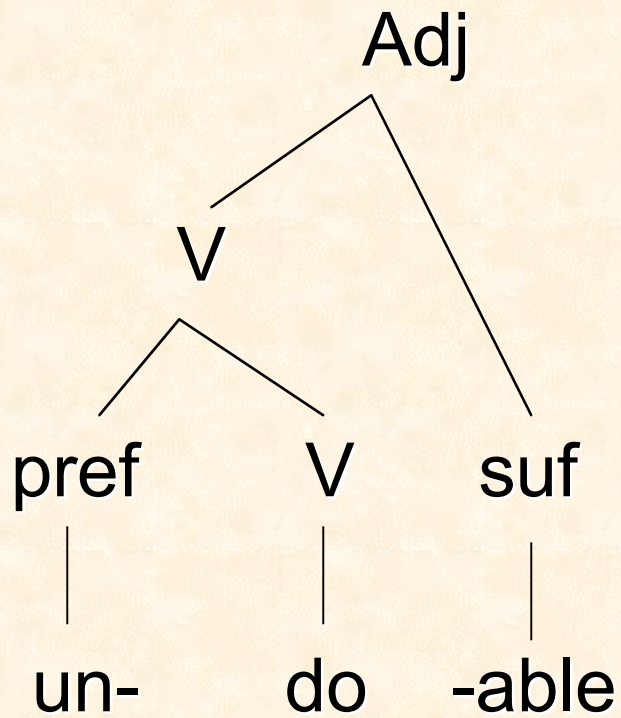
V → re- V          e.g. reenter

N → V -(t)ion [ʃn̩] e.g. distribution

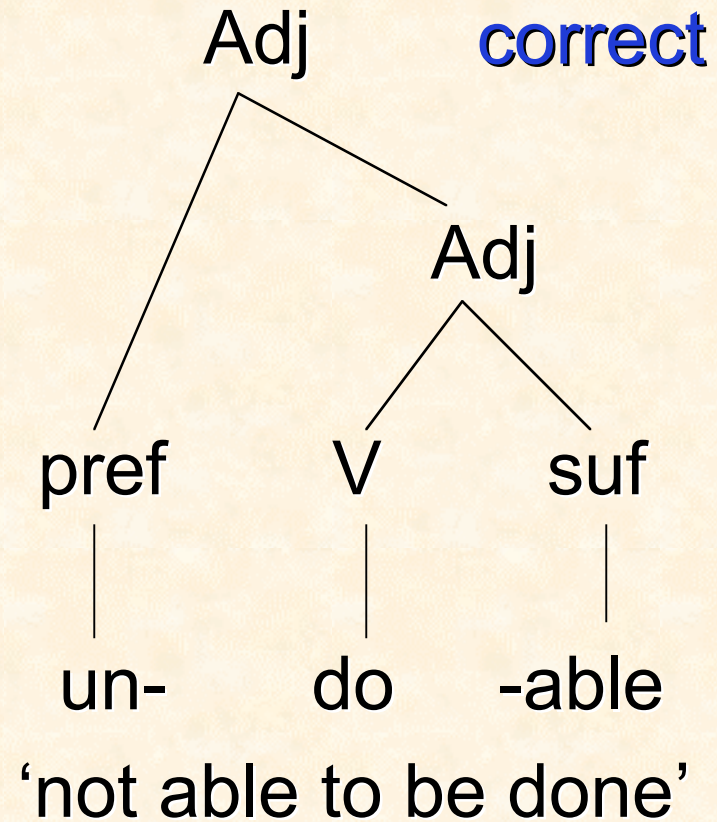
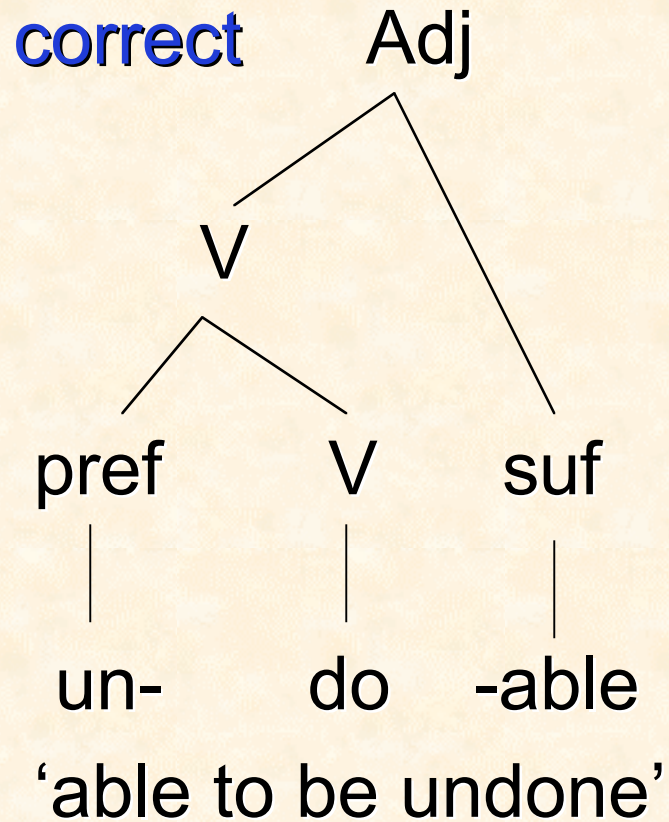
# *Which structure is correct?*



# *Which structure is correct?*



# *Which structure is correct?*



# Compounding

- Creation of new words by combining two words (*powerbook, tailgate*)
- Phonological: stress on first syllable
  - White House / white house
- Morphological: no inner inflectional affixes
  - \**shoeshorn*, \**shorter bread*, \**slate grayer*
- Syntactic: no modification inside compound
  - \**a very shortcut*, \**web rapidly surfing*

# *Reduplication*

- The formation of new words through the repetition of part or all of a word

Japanese: [yama] ‘mountain’

[yamayama] ‘mountains’ or  
‘mountain range’

[kami] ‘god’

[kamigami] ‘gods’

Note that it is not [kamikami]

*Sequential Voicing*

## *Samoaan data*

[mate] 'he dies'

[nofo] 'he stays'

[galue] 'he works'

[tanu] 'he buries'

[alofa] 'he loves'

[taoto] 'he lies'

[atamaʔi]

'he is intelligent'

[mamate] 'they die'

[nonofo] 'they stay'

[galulue] 'they work'

[tatanu] 'they bury'

[alolofa] 'they lie'

[taoto] 'they lie'

[atamamaʔi]

'they are intelligent'

## *Samoan data analysis*

- (i) What morphological process is illustrated by the data?
- (ii) Describe how this process works.
- (iii) If 'he is strong' in Samoan is [malosi], how would you say 'they are strong' in Samoan?

## *Answers (Samoan)*

- (i) Reduplication
- (ii) Reduplicate the second to the last syllable.
- (iii) 'They are strong' in Samoan is [malosi], [malolosi],