



LNG2211

English Morphology

Term 2/2022

Department of English

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Hello!

I am Aj Anniel

Napasri Suwanajote

napasri.su@ssru.ac.th





Course syllabus



Andrew Carstairs-McCarthy

4



Thecatsatonthemat



Introduction to Morphology

Most English speakers can pick out all of the words in *Thecatsatonthemat* because they can identify all those words.



Introduction to Morphology

We all have a **mental dictionary** of all the words we know, which includes the following information:


1. Pronunciation
2. Meaning
3. Orthography (spelling)
4. Grammatical category




Content Words vs. Function Words

- **Content words:** the words that convey conceptual meaning (nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.)
 - **Open class:** new types of content words can be added all the time



Content Words vs. Function Words



The screenshot shows the Cambridge Dictionary website with the search term 'HyFlex'. The entry includes a QR code, the word 'HyFlex' as a noun, its pronunciation in UK and US English, a definition, example sentences, and a list of more examples.



<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/hyflex>

HyFlex
noun [U] • EDUCATION → specialized (also **hyflex**)
UK  /ˈhaɪ.fleks/ US  /ˈhaɪ.fleks/

a type of teaching in which some students are physically present in class and others join the same class at the same time from a distance, using the internet. HyFlex is short for hybrid flexible:

- A high level of interest is currently focused on HyFlex.
- Can students learn as well in a hyflex environment as they do in a traditional classroom?

— More examples

- HyFlex doesn't have that extensive body of supporting research, but hundreds of institutions are already using it.
- We'll begin the semester with remote learning, then transition to a hyflex model in the second month.
- Institutions are looking to hyflex courses as one way to manage the ongoing public health concerns about face-to-face contact.
- The HyFlex course format combines face-to-face and online learning.

Content Words vs. Function Words



elbow bump

noun [C]

UK /'el.bəʊ ˌbʌmp/ US /'el.boʊ ˌbʌmp/



SolStock/E+/Gettyimages

a friendly greeting in which you touch someone's elbow (= the place where the arm bends) with your elbow:

- *Doing an elbow bump instead of a handshake may still not be enough to avoid spreading the virus.*
- *The fitness instructors used to high-five everyone as they walked in, but now it's all elbow bumps.*

Let's do
HyFlex
next time

What?

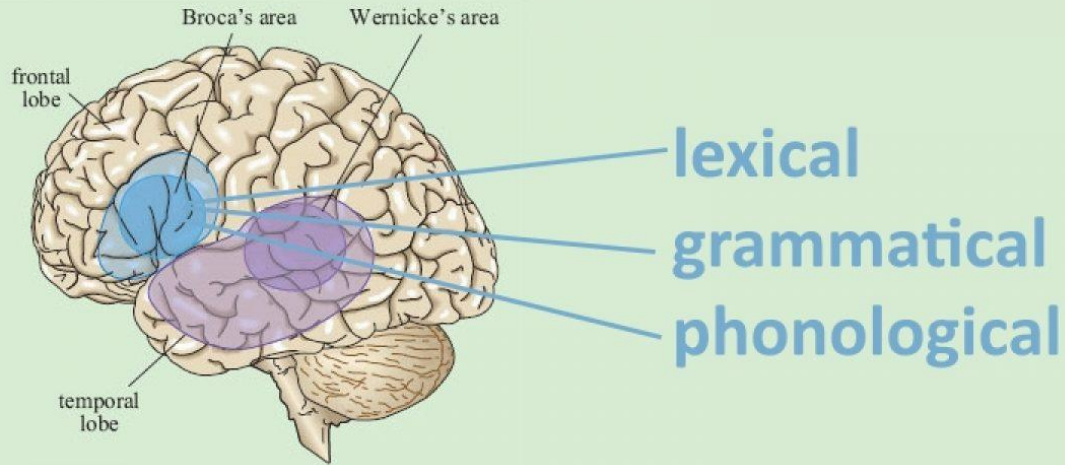




Content Words vs. Function Words

- **Function words:** the words that convey grammatical meaning (articles, prepositions, conjunctions, etc.)
 - **Closed class:** new function words are rarely added to a language

Content Words vs. Function Words





Content Words vs. Function Words

The brain treats content and function words differently

- Some aphasics* cannot read the function words *in* and *which* but can read the content words *inn* and *witch*.
- Children often omit function words from their speech when learning their first language (“*doggie barking*”)

* ทาเวะบกพร่องทางการสื่อความ

Morphemes

- **Morphology:** the study of the structure of words and the rules for word formation
- **Morpheme:** the minimal units of meaning

Morphemes

– Morphemes can be words on their own, and/or can often be combined with other morphemes to make words •

(1) The word *book* has one morpheme

(2) The word *books* has two morphemes:

<i>book</i>	+	-s
N		plural marker

Morphemes

Creativity: We can combine morphemes in new ways to create new words that can easily be understood

- writable
- rewritable
- unrewritable



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Morphemes

Creativity: We can combine morphemes in new ways to create new words that can easily be understood

- wri**table** (2 morphemes)
- re**wri****table** (3 morphemes)
- un**re****wri****table** (4 morphemes)





Bound and Free Morphemes

- **Free morphemes** can stand alone:

E.g. *love* is a single morpheme that can be uttered with no other morphemes connected to it.

- **Bound morphemes** cannot stand alone and must be attached to other morphemes:

E.g. *un-* and *-ish* are bound morphemes because they cannot stand alone.

Morphological Analysis

[Michoacan Aztec]

nokali
nokalimes
mokali
ikali
nopelo
mopelo
mopelomes

“my house”
“my houses”
“your house”
“his house”
“my dog”
“your dog”
“your dogs”

Morphological Analysis

[Michoacan Aztec]

1. Look for recurring forms with recurring meanings to identify each morpheme.
2. What is “his dogs” in the Michoacan Aztec language?

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“my dog”

“your dog”

“your dogs”

Morphological Analysis

[Michoacan Aztec]

“house”

“dog”

“my”

“your”

“his”

“plural”

”



Morphological Analysis

[Michoacan Aztec]

kali
pelo
no-
mo-
i-
-mes

“house”
“dog”
“my”
“your”
“his”
“plural”



Morphological Analysis

[Michoacan Aztec]

his dogs?

ipelomes

his + dog + plural

Well done!
Congratulations!



Unit completed!



Questions?

We can discuss in class or
contact me via **LINE** or **Email**



See you next week!

