

CAMBRIDGE TEXTBOOKS IN LINGUISTICS

# Word-Formation in English

Ingo Plag

# Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page xi</i>
<i>Abbreviations and notational conventions</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Basic concepts</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 What is a word?	4
1.2 Studying word-formation	9
1.3 Inflection and derivation	14
1.4 Summary	17
Further reading	18
Exercises	18
<b>2 Studying complex words</b>	<b>20</b>
2.1 Identifying morphemes	20
2.1.1 The morpheme as the minimal linguistic sign	20
2.1.2 Problems with the morpheme: the mapping of form and meaning	22
2.2 Allomorphy	27
2.3 Establishing word-formation rules	30
2.4 Multiple affixation	38
2.5 Summary	41
Further reading	41
Exercises	41
<b>3 Productivity and the mental lexicon</b>	<b>44</b>
3.1 Introduction: what is productivity?	44
3.2 Possible and actual words	45
3.3 Complex words in the lexicon	47
3.4 Measuring productivity	51
3.5 Constraining productivity	59
3.5.1 Pragmatic restrictions	60
3.5.2 Structural restrictions	61
3.5.3 Blocking	63

3.6	Summary	68
	Further reading	68
	Exercises	69
<b>4</b>	<b>Affixation</b>	<b>72</b>
4.1	What is an affix?	72
4.2	How to investigate affixes: more on methodology	74
4.3	General properties of English affixation	78
4.4	Suffixes	86
	4.4.1 Nominal suffixes	86
	4.4.2 Verbal suffixes	92
	4.4.3 Adjectival suffixes	94
	4.4.4 Adverbial suffixes	97
4.5	Prefixes	98
4.6	Infixation	101
4.7	Summary	104
	Further reading	104
	Exercises	105
<b>5</b>	<b>Derivation without affixation</b>	<b>107</b>
5.1	Conversion	107
	5.1.1 The directionality of conversion	108
	5.1.2 Conversion or zero-affixation?	111
	5.1.3 Conversion: syntactic or morphological?	114
5.2	Prosodic morphology	116
	5.2.1 Truncations: truncated names, -y diminutives, and clippings	116
	5.2.2 Blends	121
5.3	Abbreviations and acronyms	126
5.4	Summary	129
	Further reading	129
	Exercises	129
<b>6</b>	<b>Compounding</b>	<b>132</b>
6.1	Recognizing compounds	132
	6.1.1 What are compounds made of?	133
	6.1.2 More on the structure of compounds: the notion of head	135
	6.1.3 Stress in compounds	137
	6.1.4 Summary	141
6.2	An inventory of compounding patterns	142
6.3	Nominal compounds	144
	6.3.1 Headedness	145
	6.3.2 Interpreting nominal compounds	148

6.4	Adjectival compounds	152
6.5	Verbal compounds	154
6.6	Neoclassical compounds	155
6.7	Compounding: syntax or morphology?	159
6.8	Summary	162
	Further reading	162
	Exercises	163
<b>7</b>	<b>Theoretical issues: modeling word-formation</b>	<b>165</b>
7.1	Introduction: why theory?	165
7.2	The phonology–morphology interaction: Lexical Phonology	166
	7.2.1 An outline of the theory of Lexical Phonology	166
	7.2.2 Basic insights of Lexical Phonology	170
	7.2.3 Problems with Lexical Phonology	171
	7.2.4 Alternative theories: Fabb (1988), Plag (1999), Hay (2002)	173
7.3	The nature of word-formation rules	179
	7.3.1 The problem: word-based versus morpheme-based morphology	179
	7.3.2 Morpheme-based morphology	180
	7.3.3 Word-based morphology	184
	7.3.4 Synthesis	189
	Further reading	190
	Exercises	190
	<b>Answer key to exercises</b>	<b>193</b>
	<i>References</i>	228
	<i>Subject index</i>	234
	<i>Affix index</i>	237
	<i>Author index</i>	239