MSc Bridge Course October 2011

MORPHOLOGY

- 1. Divide the following words by placing a '+' between the morphemes. Not all are divisible. For those which are, draw the derivation tree.
 - a. retroactive
 - b. befriended
 - c. televise
 - d. margin
 - e. endearment
 - f. psychology
 - g. unpalatable
 - h. holiday
 - i. grandmother
 - j. morphemic
 - k. mistreatment
 - I. deactivation
 - m. saltpeter
 - n. airsickness
- 2. The following infinitive and past participle verb forms are found in Dutch:

Root	Infinitive	Past Participle	English translation
wandel	wandelen	gewandeld	"walk"
duw	duwen	geduwd	"push"
stofzuig	stofzuigen	gestofzuigd	"vacuum-clean"

- a. state the morphological rule for forming an infinitive verb form in Dutch
- b. state the morphological rule for forming the past participle in Dutch
- 3. For the following English words and phrases, describe their morphological status. For example, "harder" is a root morpheme plus an inflectional suffix.
 - a. seabird
 - b. from Albequerque
 - c. redo
 - d. seal
 - e. him
 - f. unthinkable
 - g. cheaper
 - h. roadblock
 - i. walker
 - j. walks
- 4. Analyse the following data from Chickasaw, a Muskogean language spoken in Oklahoma, USA:

sachaaha 'I am tall'
chichaaha 'you are tall'
satikahbi 'I am tired'
chitikahbitok 'you were tired'
hoosipokni 'they were old'
sahopoba 'I am hungry'
hoohopobatok 'they were hungry'

First, for each English meaning below, give the corresponding Chicasaw morpheme. For verbs, give the root morpheme, not the inflected form.

- a. I
- b. they
- c. you
- d. to be tired
- e. to be tall
- f. to be old
- g. to be hungry
- h. past tense

Next, translate each of the English sentences below into Chickasaw.

- a. They are tall.
- b. You were old.
- c. I was tired.
- 5. These examples from Samoan illustrate the process of reduplication -- forming new words through the repetition of all or part of a word.

manao	'he wishes'	mananao	'they wish'
matua	'he is old'	matutua	'they are old'
malosi	'he is strong'	malolosi	'they are strong'
punou	'he bends'	punonou	'they bend'
atamaki	'he is wise'	atamamaki	'they are wise'
savali	'he travels'	pepese	'they sing'
laga	'he weaves'		

What is the Samoan for:

- a. 'they weave'
- b. 'they travel'
- c. 'he sings'

Formulate the morphological rule for forming the plural verb form from the singular verb form.

^{**} There are more morphology problems among the exercises in the book, for those who would like more practice. **

SYNTAX

A. S	ay what the	part of s	peech is f	or each	of the	following	words in	boldface:
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- 1. I own a very dangerous **dog**.
- 2. That boy is **tall** for his age.
- 3. We pushed the car **into** the street.
- 4. The **room** was empty.
- 5. Can you explain the point of **this** exercise?
- 6. The lions **eagerly** chased the pigeons.
- 7. A happy lion never **chases** pigeons.
- 8. The cats **dog** our footsteps.
- 9. The horse raced past the barn **fell**.¹

B. For each of the following sentences write down all of the noun phrases found in the sentence. (use the noun phrase (NP) rules on page 4 if you need help)

- 1. You have to slice the banana.
- 2. We pushed the car into the street.
- 3. The lions eagerly chased the pigeons.
- 4. A happy lion never chases pigeons.
- 5. The cats dog our footsteps.

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¹ This is one of the most famous "garden path" sentences.

PHRASE-STRUCTURE RULES

```
S
          NP
                VP
     →
→
→
→
NP
          (DET) (AP) N (PP)
NP
          PRN
          NP
NP
                CONJ
                       NP
VP
          V (NP) (NP) (PP) (ADV)
     \rightarrow
VΡ
          V (AP)
AP
          (ADV) ADJ
PP
          P NP
```

- C. Using the phrase-structure rules above, draw trees for the following sentences. (HINT: always split the sentence into NP & VP first)
 - 1. Pat loves Robin passionately.
 - 2. Pat pushed the stubborn horse into the barn.
 - 3. Robin talked to the manager over the phone.
 - 4. We are linguists and lovers of music.
 - 5. The man from Venus gave Robin a nice picture of Aaron.
- D. Using the various constituency tests discussed (e.g. stand alone, movement, pronoun replacement), determine whether each boldfaced portion of each sentence is a constituent. If so, what is its grammatical category?
 - 1. Martha found a lovely pillow for the couch.
 - 2. The **light in this room** is terrible.
 - 3. I wonder if Bonnie has finished packing her books.
 - 4. Melissa slept in her kitchen.
 - 5. Pete and Max are fighting over the bone.
 - 6. I gave a bone to Pete and to Max yesterday.
 - 7. I gave a bone to **Pete and** to Max yesterday.

E. In terms of c-selection restrictions, explain why the following sentences are ungrammatical:

- 1. *The man located.
- 2. *Jesus wept the apostles.
- 3. *Robert is hopeful of his children.
- 4. *Robert is fond that his children love animals.
- 5. *The children laughed the man.