



UNIVERSITY OF AGDER

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION

EXAM

Course code: EN-211

Course name: Aspects of English morphology

Date: November 20, 2014

Duration: 4 hrs

Number of pages incl. front page: 5

Resources allowed: none

Notes:

Read the following instructions **carefully** and **follow** them **closely**.

Good luck!

Part I

Write a mini-essay (400 words, $\pm 10\%$) on a topic of your choice within the domain of English morphology. Make sure to use appropriate terminology and provide examples to support your argument.

Part II

Answer 4 out of 6 questions. There must be no overlap in topic with Part I.

- (1) What information must a lexical entry of an affix provide? Illustrate your answer with one prefix and one suffix.
- (2) On the basis of which criteria are words classified as either lexical or functional? Illustrate your answer with two examples each.
- (3) Define endocentric vs. exocentric compounds. Make use of the notion of headedness and provide two examples in tree format for each of the types.
- (4) What word formation processes, both regular and irregular, are attested in English. Provide two examples for each type.
- (5) Discuss some of the consequences of borrowing. Illustrate your answer with two examples per identified consequence.

- (6) Discuss the major reasons for the inconsistent spelling-sound correspondences in English. Illustrate your answer with relevant examples.

Part III

Answer 3 out of 4 questions.

- (1) Analyze the complex words given below providing information about
- the category of the suffix
 - the nature of the root it attaches to
 - possible restrictions on suffixation
 - whether the suffix attaches at STRATUM I or STRATUM II
 - stress placement in the root before and after suffixation

acquisitional	appraisal	denial	environmental
fusional	incidental	removal	revival
segmental	traditional	trial	verbal

- (2) Which of the following triggers lexical allomorphy? If your answer is (e), say how lexical allomorphy is triggered and provide two examples. If your answer is not (e), provide two examples.
- the number of syllables of the root or stem
 - the immediate phonological environment
 - nearby grammatical morphs
 - the lexical item itself
 - none of the previous

- (3) Analyze the following Cree forms and find an equivalent for each English possessive pronoun. Do not overlook the difference between singular and plural possessor. Identify the morphemes, their meanings, and what the order of their occurrence is:

knife	berry	
mo:hkoma:n	mi:nis	knife/berry
mo:hkoma:na	mi:nisa	knives/berries
nimo:hkoma:n	nimi:nis	my knife/berry
nimo:hkoma:na	nimi:nisa	my knives/berries
kimo:hkoma:n	kimi:nis	your knife/berry
kimo:hkoma:na	kimi:nisa	your knives/berries
nimo:hkoma:nina:n	nimi:nis	our knife/berry
nimo:hkoma:nina:na	nimi:nisa	our knives/berries
kimo:hkoma:niwa:w	kimi:nisiwa:w	your (pl) knife/berry
kimo:hkoma:niwa:wa	kimi:nisiwa:wa	your (pl) knives/berries
omo:hkoma:n	omi:nis	his knife/berry
omo:hkoma:na	omi:nisa	his knives/berries
omo:hkoma:niwa:w	omi:nisiwa:w	their knife/berry
omo:hkoma:niwa:wa	omi:nisiwa:wa	their knives/berries

Cowan & Rakušan (1998: 68)

- (4) Say whether the following orders of morphs are possible or impossible in English. For the possible ones, give two examples each.
- inflectional prefix + root + derivational suffix + derivational suffix
 - derivational prefix + root + derivational suffix + inflectional suffix
 - derivational prefix + clitic + root + inflectional suffix
 - bound root + inflectional suffix

- e. inflectional prefix + stem
- f. root + derivational suffix + clitic
- g. stem + inflectional suffix + inflectional suffix
- h. root + root + derivational suffix + inflectional suffix