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## Part 1: Bound Roots

22 Morphemes come in two flavors. Bound and free. Usually a word will consist of one free morpheme, and bound morphemes are attached to it. Sometimes, however, the root of the word will itself be bound.

59 (Katamba distinguishes between "Base", "Root" and "stem". "Base" is the most universal term; "Root" refers to the morpheme which takes derivational affixes, while "stem" refers to the morpheme which takes inflectional affixes. This is not a set convention, and in this exam I will use Root as a general term, unless otherwise specified for clarity.)

100 In the case of cranberry, "cran" does not carry independent meaning, yet it is the root of the word. (Cranberry can be analysed as a compound of cran and berry, but cran would still be the root, and it doesn't really make sense to do this since "cran" does not have an independent meaning.)

"Cran" is an always-bound morpheme. It can never stand on its own. ~~Ergo "cran" is a bound root.~~

"Cran" is not an affix, but the very root of the word. Ergo - "cran" is a bound root.

200 Other morphemes are only bound in certain contexts. E.g. "Stem" in strawberry. "stem" does carry an independent meaning, but it is not the same meaning as "stem" in strawberry. (This is not a "berry of the stem".) Therefore in the context of

230 "berry", "stem" is a bound root.



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281 The main reason bound roots exist is because of language borrowing. In the case of "biped", "tripod", "centipede" and "millipede" each morpheme is bound. Each of these words are a combination of bound roots and combining forms: morphemes which carry a clear meaning, but only may remain bound.

~~In some cases an imported word may seem like it can be divided into a root and a derivational affix, but the word has however, an etymological but since these have been imported as complete words they do not always lend themselves to be regarded as free roots.  
e.g. Servant. can be analysed as 'serve' + -ant, however the word has been imported as a whole.~~

Since bound roots do not carry a complete independent meaning they are dependent on another morpheme to complete its meaning.

329 This cannot be an inflectional suffix, because inflectional suffixes do not create/carry meaning; they only modify grammatical meaning. A bound root is hence dependent on another root (i.e. in a compound) or a combining form as stated above.

355. Summary: Bound roots are a feature of English caused by language borrowing and resulting in certain morphemes that are only meaningful in context with other morphemes, but are still the basis of affixation, and not affixes in themselves.

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Part 2.

(2) words are classified as either lexical or functional by the basis of the following criteria:

- Word class: Does it belong to an open or a closed word class? Can it be the head of a noun, verb, adjective or adverb phrase?

Lexical word classes are open, meaning that ~~we~~ we can create new words belonging in these classes. Lexical words carry a lot of meaning, and thus they can be heads or phrases. e.g. car and walk both carry a lot of meaning.

- Does it take affixation? Can you modify the word by changing it? For example, can you change the word class by adding a derivational suffix, "a date" - "to be dating", or change its meaning by adding a prefix? "well" "unwell".



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~~Part 2~~

(3) A compound word is one which consists of two (or more) free morphemes (each able to stand on its own as a word). According to the righthand head rule the rightmost part of the compound determines the meaning of the compound as a whole. If the meaning of the compound is obvious from its constituents the word is an endocentric compound.

Endocentric means that the meaning can be focused within itself.

e.g. Football stadium; ~~is~~ a stadium for Football. (Further analysis included in tree below.)

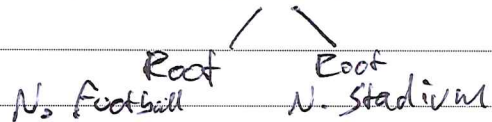
e.g.2; Refrigerator Magnet; a magnet for the refrigerator.

If the meaning of the compound is not obvious from the constituents of the word i.e. the referent is outside the word itself, it is an exocentric compound. Exocentric means outside itself.

e.g.3: Skinhead; not any 'head' that is 'skinned', but a word for a neo-Nazi.

e.g.4: Lazyboy; not a 'boy' that is 'lazy', but a type of chair.

Tree formats: 7: N<sub>1</sub> Football stadium



(There is another endocentric compound.)

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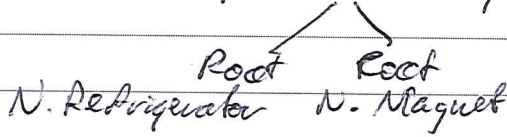
  graph TD
    A[Root] --- B[Root]
    A --- C[Root]
    B --- D[N1 Foot]
    C --- E[N1 Ball]
  
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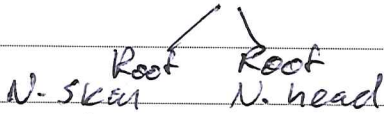


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2. N. Refrigerator Magnet

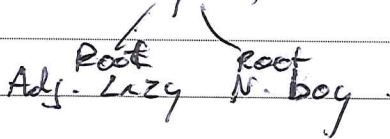


3. N. Skinhead



(Possibly clipping or Adj: skinned)

4. N. Lazyboy



As you can see in example 4 the rightmost constituent of the compound (i.e. the head) determines the word class of the compound.

(4) Word formation processes in English:

a) Affixation: there are two types of affixes, derivational affixes and inflectional affixes. Both are part of the process of creating new words. Inflectional ~~soft~~ affixes are always suffixes. These change how a word functions in a sentence.

eg. 1: plural -s in nouns; one car, two cars.

eg. 2: Superlative -est in adjectives; he is great, he is the greatest.

Derivational affixes can be either suffixes or prefixes. They are called derivational because they derive a new meaning or



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a word, typically (but not always) by changing its word class. Derivational affixes are sorted in categories depending on what word class they derive, and which word classes they attach to.  
 e.g. 1: -er in doer. Do is a verb, and the suffix creates an agent, by changing into a noun.  
 -er is a  $V \rightarrow N$  suffix.

e.g. 2: ~~UN-~~ in undo. Do is a verb, the derivational prefix UN- is a negation, meaning not x. In this case the derivational affix does not change the class of the word, but it does change its meaning.

Affixation is the most productive word formation process, but some affixes are more productive than others. (Inflectional suffixes are the most productive ones.)

b) Conversion: changing the word class of a word, without affixation. ~~(Additional examples (examples below!))~~

e.g. 1: to dance  $\rightarrow$  a dance  $V \rightarrow N$  conversion

~~e.g. 2: a telephone  $\rightarrow$  to telephone someone  $N \rightarrow V$  conversion~~

c) Compounding: has been covered above: (in question (3).)

d) Backformation: when instead of adding a new morpheme to a word, a part of the word is cut off in order to create a new word.

e.g. 1: editor  $\rightarrow$  edit, -or has been cropped off.

this is  $N \rightarrow V$  backformation.

e.g. 2: custom-made  $\rightarrow$  custom-make, the past tense inflection has been removed.

this is  $Adj \rightarrow V$  backformation.

See to flow of question





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e) Coining of new words (Spinning): Many word formation processes will be treated under this point. These are words that have become institutionalized because they have been frequently used, even if the word formation processes are irregular. These include spinning of name brands, abbreviations and acronyms.

Spinning of name brands includes a process of semantic widening. A new word is invented, and by extending its meaning it can be used in several contexts.

e.g.: Google, → to google something.

Abbreviations are shortened versions of established words, such as doc. for doctor.

Acronyms are abbreviations which can be pronounced, and hence treated, as words. These include initialisms like UN for the United Nations or SCUBA (self-contained underwater breathing apparatus). Acronyms may or may not be translated into other languages. (~~the~~ UN becomes FN, but USA does not become FNA.)

b) Conversion includes a stress change.

e.g. 2: V. Permit → N. Permit    V. → N conversion  
/pɜ:ˈmɪt/    /ˈpɜ:ˌmɪt/.



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- (5) - Consequences of borrowing? ~~include~~  
Borrowing makes the lexicon confusing. In many contexts you will have a varied option of words to choose from, and you may choose what ever best suits your purpose.
- This however, creates some confusion:
- a) Etymological confusion:** False etymology or folk-etymology: People hear an imported word, and think it sounds similar to something else. They create an etymology for the word which has no basis in reality.  
e.g. 1: Sparrow-grass from "Asparagus"  
e.g. 2: believing that Pecan is the origin of "Peanut".
  - b) consequences of back formation.**  
e.g. Cherry from cherries (French: *Cherise*).
  - c) language more varied.** ~~Most~~ ~~Non~~ ~~native~~ ~~speakers~~ ~~of~~ ~~English~~ have no words that end in *i* or *o*. (like Ski or Goro).
  - d) Bound roots.** (covered in essay above)
  - e) Certain affixes are more productive than others, because some imported affixes have restricted applications.**
    - ment is a low productivity suffix  
e.g. Environment (from French).
    - plural -s is a high productivity suffix because it comes from ~~the~~ English.





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(b) the major reasons for inconsistencies in spelling-sound correspondence in English can be explained by a historical understanding of language development. Language evolves naturally and through reforms. Due to the variety of dialects and the vast amounts of literature in English any reform in modern times to unite the spelling system with spoken language has been deemed unfeasible.

~~How in the case of~~

Examples of language change ~~is~~ are.

- 1: the silencing of /k/ before /l/ in knee and knight
- 2: the ~~complete disappearance~~ almost complete disappearance of the phoneme /r/ in British English (BRP)

Examples of deliberate attempts at reform are

- 1: 'gh' for /r/ in 'enough'; implemented by Dutch scribes.

- 2: the change of 'o' to 'o<sup>u</sup>' after 'w', 'v' and 'n'

due to difficulty reading cursive, e.g. 'woman'.

The English spelling system has remained largely unchanged since the ~~15th~~ 15th century, but changes in spoken language, including the great vowel shift (1400-1600) have not been successfully standard.



### Part 3

(1) : Note: in cases where I could think of at least two examples, I have marked "no restriction" on C).  
~~(2)~~ or additional suffixation.

#### 1) Acquisitional

a) -al is a  $N \rightarrow Adj$  suffix (Derivational)

b) the root "acquisition" is a Noun

c) no restriction on suffixation

d) Stratum 2 affixation, Neutral, does not change the stress, spelling or pronunciation of the root

e) before suffixation stress is on the penultimate syllable, after suffixation stress is on antepenultimate syllable.

#### Acquisition

a) -tion is a  $V \rightarrow N$  deriv. suffix.

b) the root "acquire" is a verb

c) no restriction

d) Stratum 1 affixation: Non-neutral, suffixation changes spelling and pronunciation.

e) before: penultimate after: penultimate

#### 2) appraisal

a) -al is a  $V \rightarrow N$  deriv. suffix

b) ~~appraise~~ is a verb. it can also be a noun, but in this case it has changed to 'appraise' to fit  
d) the suffix -al, therefore it is a verb.

c) due to the prefix this noun is unlikely to receive additional suffixation.

d) Stratum 1 suffixation; Non-neutral; changes spelling.

e) before: ultimate after: penultimate stress.



### 3) Denial

- a) -al is a  $V \rightarrow N$  deriv suffix.
- b) root "deny" is a verb
- c) ~~No restrictions~~
- d) Stratum 1: Non-neutral: change in spelling
- e) Before: Ultimate After: Ultimate

### 4) Environmental

- a) -al is a  $N \rightarrow \text{Adj}$  deriv suffix
- b) environment is a noun
- c) ~~Very few suffixes could themselves be added outside suffix~~ No restrictions.
- d) Stratum 1: Non-neutral: change in stress
- e) before: antepenultimate After: penultimate environment
- a) ~~word~~ cannot be analyzed further: imported word from French.

### 5) Fusion

- a) -al is a  $N \rightarrow \text{Adj}$  suffix (derivational)
- b) Fusion is a noun
- c) Does not take more suffixation
- d) Stratum 2: Neutral
- e) Before: Penultimate After: Antepenultimate  
Fusion
- a) -ion is a  $V \rightarrow N$  deriv suffix
- b) fuse is a verb (it can also be a noun, but not in this context)
- c) ~~Does not take more~~ No restrictions
- d) Stratum 1: Non-neutral: change in pronunciation  
/fju:z/ → /fju:zən/
- e) b: ultimate a: Penultimate.



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## 6) incidental

- a) -al is  $N \rightarrow Adj$  deriv. Suffix.
- b) incident is a noun
- c) Does not take morphological suffixes
- d) Stratum 1: Non-neutral; change in stress
- e) b: Antepenult. stress    A: Penult.

## 7) removal

- a) -al is a  $V \rightarrow N$  deriv. Suffix.
  - b) remove is a verb
  - c) Does take inflectional suffixes  $\rightarrow$  No restrictions
  - d) Stratum 2: Neutral
  - e) b: ultimate    A: Penultimate
- remove could be further analysed as  
re-move. I choose here to analyse move  
and remove as distinct morphemes/lexemes,  
since the prefix re- does not fit the usual  
connotations of "to do again".

## 8.) revival

- a) -al is a  $V \rightarrow N$  d.s.
- b) revive is a verb ~~consisting of bound root~~  
<sup>revive</sup>
- c) No restrictions
- d) Stratum 2: Neutral
- e) ultimate  $\rightarrow$  penultimate





## 9) Segmental

a) -al is a  $N \rightarrow Adj$  d.s.

b) Segment is a Noun consisting of bound roots seg. and ment. (ment can be combined)  
in e.g. Fragment, but it cannot stand alone.

c) does not take additional suffixation

d) Stratum 1: Non-lexical: Stress change

e) b: pencil. a: pencil.

## 10) traditional

a) -al is  $N \rightarrow Adj$  d.s.

b) tradition is  $N$ .  $\rightarrow$  I will not analyse further because, though -tion is a common suffix, I cannot see the connection between "trade" and "tradition".

c) Does not take additional suffixation

d) Stratum 2: Neutral

e) b: ~~pencil~~ pencil a: Ant pencil.

## 11) trial

a) -al is a  $V \rightarrow N$  d.s.

b) try is a verb

c) takes inflectional suffix

d) Stratum 2: Non-lexical: change in spelling

e) b: ultimate a: ultimate

## 12) verbal

a) -al  $N \rightarrow N$  deriv suffix. No category change

b) "verb" is a noun

c) takes inflectional suffix

d) Stratum 2: Neutral

e) b: ultimate a: punctuate.



(3) In Cree the word for knife is 'no:kkonai:n' and the word for berry is 'ni:nis'. The regular plural form of nouns is indicated by the suffix '-a'. The first person possessive is indicated by the prefix 'ni-'. In the language singular 'my' and plural 'our' possessives are not distinguished. The second person possessive is indicated by the prefix 'ki-' and the third person possessive is indicated by the prefix 'o-'. In second and third person singular and plural are distinguished by adding the suffix '-iwaiw'. If the object is in plural, the plural marker is placed outside the pronoun plural suffix. Noun conjugation follows this formula:

1st  
 2nd person possessive determiner + Noun + Singular or Plural + Inflectional Suffix  
 3rd  
 Prefix Root Determiner Suffix

		Prefix	Suffix
Singular	1st person	Ni-	∅
	2nd person	Ki-	∅
	3rd person	O-	∅
Plural	1st person	Ni-	∅
	2nd person	Ki-	-iwaiw
	3rd person	O-	-iwaiw

~~Plural suffix~~ inflectional suffix: '-a'.





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(4) Order of morphemes.

- a. Inflectional prefix + root + derivational suffix + derivational suffix is not possible because there are no inflectional prefixes. all prefixes are derivational.
- b. Derivational prefix + root + derivational suffix + inflectional suffix is possible.  
e.g. 1: Preschoolers preschool + er + s  
e.g. 2: Unamericanism's un + american + ism + s
- c. Derivational prefix + clitic + root + inflectional suffix is not possible because clitics always attach 'behind' the root, not in front.
- d. Bound root + inflectional suffix is not possible because bound roots do not carry independent meaning, and are thus incomplete words on their own without an additional ~~suffix~~ morpheme to complete its meaning. (covered in essay on task 1).
- e. Inflectional prefix + stem is not possible, same reason as a: prefixes are derivational.
- f. root + derivational suffix + clitic is possible.  
e.g. 1: Driver's drive + er + genitive 's.  
e.g. 2: student's study + ent + genitive 's.
- g. Stem + inflectional suffix + inflectional suffix is not possible, because a word can have a maximum of one inflectional suffix attached.
- h. root + root + derivational suffix + inflectional suffix is possible.  
e.g. 1: Pie-eaters Pie + eat + er + s  
e.g. 2: backstabbers back + stab + er + s