# The Importance of Morphology and Engaging Activities

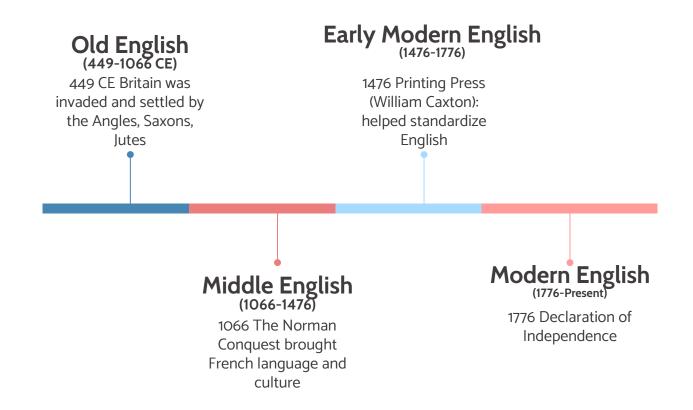
Mount St. Joseph University

2022 Community Conference

Janice Kohler-Curtis

Janice.Kohler@msj.edu

# **American English Timeline**



# Anglo-Saxon

#### Characteristics of Latin

## Greek

- Free morpheme
  - Combined to make compound words
- Many common letter-sound correspondences as well as many irregular spellings (e.g., knight)
  - Simple words that reflect the times

- Latin bases cannot stand alone (bound morphemes)
- Latin base is usually stressed
- More technical. sophisticated than AS
- Must attach a prefix or suffix

- Scientific and
- mathematical terms
- Combining forms
- Unusual spellings
- 60% of the words used in text contain Latin and Greek bases (Henry, 2010)

### **Key Terms**

- 1. Phonology: Study of the sounds system within a language
- 2. Orthography: Writing system within a language (spelling)
- 3. Morphology: The study of meaningful units of language and how they are combined in word formation (Moats, 2020, p. 300).
- 4. Morpheme: The smallest unit of language that holds meaning.
- 5. Inflectional Suffix: Suffixes that indicate number, person, tense, or comparative forms.
- 6. Derivational Suffix: Change the part of speech
- 7. Etymology: the study of the origin or history of words
- 8. Connectives are the "glue" that sometimes come between morphemes in Latin and Greek-based words (e.g., document). A connective is not a morpheme and does not hold meaning.
- 9. Assimilation is when the last consonant of the prefix changes to the same or similar phoneme as the first phoneme of the base (e.g., *sub* changes to *suc* with *success*; *con* changes to *com* in *combine*).
- 10. Morphophonemic: English orthography is a deep alphabetic writing system that is organized by both sound-symbol correspondences and meaning (Moats & Tolman, 2019).

# **Teaching Morphology**







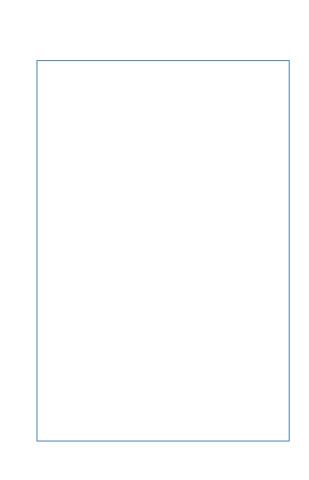






## **Word Sums Practice**

construction tractor indestructible contracts telemeter psychology autographs



# Phoneme and Morpheme **Practice**

construction

tractor

indestructible

contracts

telemeter

psychology autographs

Phonemes	Morphemes

# **Activity Ideas**

**Interactive Slides** 

#### **Secret Door Foldable**

- One and a half pieces of paper
- Fold, cut, weave

Morpheme Foldable

**Building Words with Morphemes** 

**Balderdash** 

Guess the Word (using emojis)

#### Websites:

- www.wordworkskingston.com
- www.learnthat.org
- www.membean.com
- <u>www.etymonline.com</u>

# Thank you!

Do you have any questions?

Janice.Kohler@msj.edu

JaniceK@sbsl.org

#### Resources

- Archer, A. L., & Hughes, C. A. (2011). Explicit instruction: Effective and efficient teaching. The Guilford Press.
- Bowers, P. (2009). Teaching how the written word works: Using morphological problem-solving to develop students' language skills and engagement with the written word. <a href="http://www.wordworkskingston.com">http://www.wordworkskingston.com</a>.
- Curzan, A. & Adams, M. (2012). *How English works: A linguistic introduction (3rd ed.).* Longman.
- Davidson, S. J., & O'Connor, R. E. (2019). An intervention using morphology to derive word meanings for English language learners. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 52(2), 394-407. doi:10.1002/JABA.539
- Gough, P. B., & Tunmer, W. E. (1986). Decoding, reading, and reading disability. *Remedial and Special Education*, 7, 6-10. https://doi.org/10.1177/074193258600700104
- Hanna, P.R., Hanna, J.S., Hodges, R. E., & Rudorf, E. H., Jr. (1966). *Phoneme-grapheme correspondences as cues to spelling improvement* (USDOE Publication No. 32008). Government Printing Press.
- Henry, M. K. (2010). *Unlocking literacy: Effective decoding and spelling instruction (2nd ed.).* Paul H. Brookes Publishing Company.
- Lane, J. (2021, June 2). The 10 most spoken languages in the world. Babbel Magazine. www.babbel.com/en/magazine/the-10-most-spoken-languages-in-the-world
- Moats, L. C. (2020). Speech to print: Language essentials for teachers (3rd ed.). Paul H. Brookes Publishing Company.
- Moats, L. C., & Tolman, C. A. (2019). *LETRS* (3rd ed., Vol. 1). Voyager Sopris Learning.
- Scarborough, H. (2001 Connecting early language and literacy to later reading (dis)abilities: Evidence, theory and practice. In S. Newman & D. Dickinson (Eds.), *Handbook of Early Literacy Research*, pp. 97-110. Guilford Press.

