

The Importance of Morphology and Engaging Activities

Mount St. Joseph University
2022 Community Conference
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Learning Outcomes:

- Basic understanding of American English Timeline
 - Four time periods with significant events
- Understand the connection between morphology, vocabulary and spelling
- Understand how morphology fits into the Simple View of Reading and Scarborough's Rope
- Learn new terms
- Apply structured literacy strategies to teach morphology
- Incorporate morphology activity ideas

“To be an accurate speller, one must have knowledge of phonology, orthography, morphology, and etymology.”

—Marcia Henry (2010)

Middle English

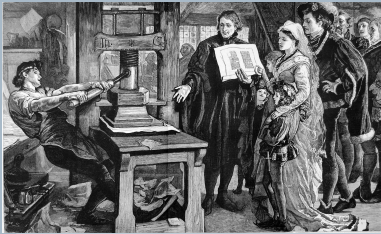
- Anglo-French compounds and affixed words (e.g., gentlewomen, faithfulness)
- French words related to government, law, and the art (e.g., parliament, justice, prologue)
- Latin entered (e.g., rupt; rupture, erupt, eruption, disrupt)

Middle English
1066 The Norman Conquest bringing French language and culture

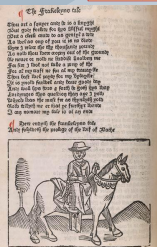
Henry, 2010



Early Modern English



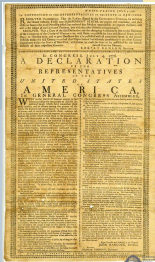
Early Modern English
1476 Printing Press
William Caxton helped standardize English



Early Modern English

Modern English

Modern English
1776
1776 Declaration of Independence



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Anglo-Saxon	Latin	Greek
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>(e.g., bird, blood, girl, grave, jump, laugh, mother, run)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latin bases cannot stand alone (bound morphemes) • Must attach a prefix or suffix • Latin base is usually stressed • More technical, sophisticated than AS <p>(e.g., audience, disrupt, transcript, contracted)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific and mathematical terms • Combining forms • Unusual spellings • 60% of the words used in text contain Latin and Greek bases (Henry, 2010) <p>(e.g., photograph, hydrophobia, photosynthesis)</p>

(Moats, 2020)

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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.

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*).

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About 370 million people speak English as a first language;
978 million speak English as a second language.

Lane, 2021

Morphology's Connection to Vocabulary and Spelling

Morphology

The study of meaningful units of language and how they are combined in word formation (Moats, 2020, p. 300).

Morpheme

The smallest unit of language that holds meaning.
reversed
re + vers + ed

Inflectional Morpheme

Indicates grammatical features such as number, person, tense, or comparative forms (e.g., dogs; walked; smaller) (Henry, 2010).

Derivational Morpheme

Added to words that typically change the part of speech (e.g., hope <noun> to hopeless <adjective>) (Henry, 2010).

50%

Of words can be spelled accurately by sound-symbol correspondence (e.g., cat).

36%

Of words can be spelled accurately except for one speech sound (e.g., bacon).

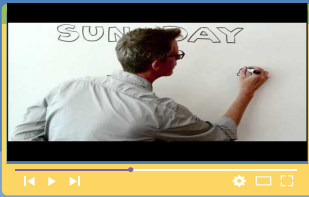
14%

Of words can be spelled with two or more irregular patterns (e.g., Wednesday)

10%

Of those 14% of irregular words can be explained by looking at the morphology (e.g., Wednesday was Woden's Day).

Days of the Week



Written language does not always coincide with spoken language. However, spelling almost always coincides with meaning (Bowers, 2009).

Sign

Turn and Talk Why its relationship to words like sign or signifier. The sign is the relationship between the signifier and the signified. The signifier is the physical form of the sign, and the signified is the concept or meaning that the signifier represents.

Morphophonemic:

English orthography is a deep alphabetic writing system that is organized by both sound-symbol correspondences and meaning (Moats & Tolman, 2019).

In a study done by Davidson and O'Connor (2019), findings suggested that morphological analysis is a promising approach to increasing vocabulary knowledge of English Language Learners.

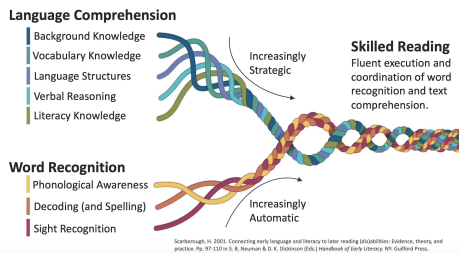
The Simple View
of Reading &
Scarborough's
Reading Rope

The Simple View of Reading (SVR)



Gough & Tunmer, 1986

Scarborough's Reading Rope



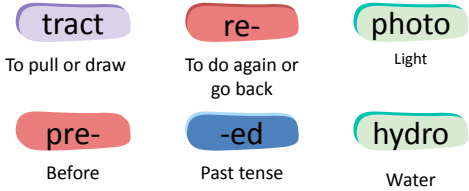
Scarborough, J. (2001). Connecting early language and literacy to later reading (dis)abilities: Evidence, theory, and practice. In J. K. Nelson & R. Nelson (Eds.), *Handbook of early literacy* (pp. 107-132). Guilford Press.

Teaching Morphology

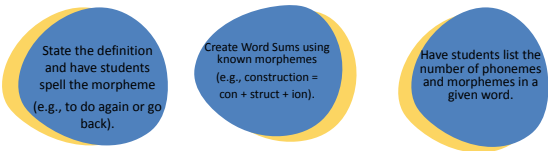
Teaching Morphology



Review of Concepts



More Review Options



Word Sums Practice

construction
tractor
indestructible
contracts
telemeter
psychology
autographs

con + struct + ion
tract + or
in + de + struct + ible
con + tract + s
tele + meter
psych + (o)logy
auto + graph + s

Phoneme and Morpheme Practice

construction
tractor
indestructible
contracts
telemeter
psychology
autographs

Phonemes	Morphemes
11	3
6	2
13	4
9	3
8	2
8	2
8	3

New Morpheme

port

Helpful Websites

1. www.wordworkskingston.com
 - a. Identify the base you want to teach.
 - b. Choose 8-10 words from "Word Searcher."
 - c. Enter them as word sums into "Mini Matrix-Maker."
2. Learnthat.org: Go to Resources at the top. Hover over it and drop down to "word roots." Hover over Resources again. Click on "suffixes." *It does not always recognize the connectors.
3. Membean.com: Go to Google. Type in "fer root word of the day." Just type in the base that you are learning and "root word of the day."
4. www.etymonline.com

Activity Ideas

Create Interactive Slides:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1L4J5k9fM9yo-rRzWCrvOD_EosvW6Apa7CstYEIQb8Y/copy

Secret Door Foldable

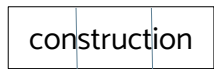
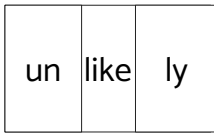
Secret Door Foldable

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



Morpheme Foldables

- Use strips of paper.
 - Start with a base word. →
 - Then fold paper over to add affixes.
-
- Use large index card. Fold hot dog style.
 - Write a word with morphemes. Then cut between the morphemes. →
 - Write the definition behind each flap.
 - Write words sums or sentences.



Making Words: Morpheme Style!

1. Need 12 volunteers. I will give everyone a morpheme card.
2. I will give the definition of a word.
3. Volunteers will get together and match up the correct morphemes to form the word.
4. Audience will read the word and give a thumbs up if the word matches the definition that was given.

Definition:
One who or that which
pulls or drags

tract

er
or

Activity: Balderdash

brontophobia

Fear of dinosaurs

Fear of thunder

Fear of bronchitis

Fear of peanut butter

Activity: Balderdash

brontophobia

Fear of dinosaurs

Fear of thunder

Fear of bronchitis

Fear of peanut butter

Guess the Word

Arachnophobia

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Morphology is fun!

- Review
- Explicit Instruction
- Word Play

Thank you!

Do you have any questions?
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Resources

- Archer, A. L., & Hughes, C. A. (2011). *Explicit instruction: Effective and efficient teaching*. The Guilford Press.
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