

<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>IPA Transcription Key</i>	xiii

1 What Is a Word?	1
1.1 Explaining <i>Word</i> in Words	1
1.2 Language Is a Secret Decoder Ring	4
1.3 Wordhood: The Whole Kit and Caboodle	7
1.4 Two Kinds of Words	11
1.5 The Anatomy of a Listeme	12
1.6 What <i>Don't</i> You Have to Learn When You're Learning a Word?	14
1.7 A Scientific Approach to Language	16
Appendix: Basic Grammatical Terms	16
Study Problems	18
Further Reading	20
2 Sound and Fury: English Phonology	21
2.1 English Spelling and English Pronunciation	21
2.2 The Voice Box	25
2.3 The Building Blocks of Words I: Consonants in the IPA	27
2.4 Building Blocks II: Vowels and the IPA	36
2.5 Families of Sounds and Grimm's Law: A Case in Point	45
Study Problems	51
Further Reading	53

3	Phonological Words: Calling All Scrabble Players!	54
3.1	Guessing at Words: The Scrabble Problem	54
3.2	Building Blocks III: The Syllable	58
3.3	Phonotactic Restrictions on English Syllables	61
3.4	From a Stream of Sound into Words: Speech Perception	71
3.5	Syllables, Rhythm, and Stress	75
3.6	Using Stress to Parse the Speech Stream into Words	78
3.7	Misparsing the Speech Stream, Mondegreens, and Allophones	80
3.8	Allophony	83
3.9	What We Know about Phonological Words	84
	Study Problems	85
	Further Reading	89
	Notes	89
4	Where Do Words Come From?	90
4.1	Getting New Listemes	90
4.2	When Do We Have a New Word?	91
4.3	New Words by "Mistake": Back-Formations and Folk Etymologies	92
4.4	New Words by Economizing: Clippings	95
4.5	<i>Extreme</i> Economizing: Acronyms and Abbreviations	96
4.6	Building New Words by Putting Listemes Together: Affixation and Compounding	98
4.7	Compounding Clips and Mixing It up: Blends	101
4.8	New Listemes via Meaning Change	102
4.9	But Are These Words Really <i>New</i> ?	106
4.10	What Makes a New Word Stick?	107
	Study Problems	109
	Further Reading	110
5	Pre- and Suf-fix-es: Engl-ish Morph-o-log-y	111
5.1	Listemes	111
5.2	Making up Words	112
5.3	Affixal Syntax: Who's My Neighbor? Part I	124
5.4	Affixal Phonology: Who's My Neighbor? Part II	127
5.5	Allomorphy	130

5.6	Closed-Class and Open-Class Morphemes: Reprise	136
	Study Problems	138
	Further Reading	142
	Notes	142
6	Morphological Idiosyncrasies	144
6.1	Different Listemes, Same Meaning: Irregular Suffixes	145
6.2	Root Irregulars	153
6.3	Linguistic Paleontology: Fossils of Older Forms	155
6.4	Why Some but Not Others?	164
6.5	How Do Kids Figure It Out?	166
6.6	Representing Complex Suffixal Restrictions	168
6.7	Keeping Irregulars: Semantic Clues to Morphological Classes	170
6.8	Really Irregular: Suppletive Forms	173
6.9	Losing Irregulars: Producing Words on the Fly	175
6.10	Productivity, Blocking, and Bushisms	177
	Study Problems	180
	Further Reading	183
	Notes	184
7	Lexical Semantics: The Structure of Meaning, the Meaning of Structure	185
7.1	Function Meaning vs. Content Meaning	186
7.2	Entailment	189
7.3	Function Words and their Meanings	190
7.4	Content Words and their Meanings	197
7.5	Relationships and Argument Structure: Meaning and Grammar	204
7.6	Argument Structure	206
7.7	Derivational Morphology and Argument Structure	209
7.8	Subtleties of Argument Structure	210
7.9	Function vs. Content Meanings: The Showdown	212
7.10	How Do We <i>Learn</i> All That?	214
	Study Problems	215
	Further Reading	216
	Notes	217

8	Children Learning Words	218
8.1	How Do Children Learn the Meanings of Words?	218
8.2	Learning Words for Middle-Sized Observables	222
8.3	When the Basics Fail	226
8.4	Morphological and Syntactic Clues	226
8.5	Learning Words for Non-Observables	228
8.6	Syntactic Frames, Semantic Roles, and Event Structure	229
8.7	Agent–Patient Protoroles	231
8.8	Functional Listemes Interacting with Content Listemes	232
8.9	Simple Co-Occurrence? Or Actual Composition?	233
8.10	Yes, but Where Do the Words Come from in the First Place?	236
	Study Problems	236
	Further Reading	237
	Notes	238
9	Accidents of History: English in Flux	239
9.1	Linguistic Change, and Lots of It	239
9.2	Layers of Vocabulary and Accidents of History	249
9.3	A Brief History of England, as Relevant to the English Vocabulary	249
9.4	55 BC to 600 AD: How the English Came to England	250
9.5	600–900 AD: The English and the Vikings	253
9.6	1066–1200: Norman Rule	255
9.7	1200–1450: Anglicization of the Normans	256
9.8	1450–1600: The English Renaissance	259
9.9	1600–1750: Restoration, Expansion	262
9.10	1750–Modern Day	263
9.11	The Rise of Prescriptivism: How to Really Speak Good	266
9.12	English Orthography: The Latin Alphabet, the Quill Pen, the Printing Press, and the Great Vowel Shift	267
9.13	Summary	276
	Study Problems	276
	Further Reading	278
	Notes	279
	<i>Glossary</i>	281
	<i>Works Consulted</i>	290
	<i>Index</i>	291