Contents

Preface x
Abbreviations xii

1 Introduction 1

1.1 What is morphology? 1
1.2 Morphology in different languages 4
1.3 The goals of morphological research 6
1.4 A brief user's guide to this book 9
Summary of Chapter 1 10
Further reading 11
Exercises 11

2 Basic concepts 13

2.1 Lexemes and word-forms 13
2.2 Morphemes 16
2.3 Affixes, bases and roots 18
2.4 Formal operations 21
2.5 Morphemes and allomorphs 26
2.6 Some difficulties in morpheme analysis 31
Summary of Chapter 2 34
Appendix. Morpheme-by-morpheme glosses 34
Exercises 36

3 Lexicon and rules 39

3.1 Productivity and the lexicon 39
3.2 The form of morphological rules 44
3.2.1 The morpheme-based model 45
3.2.2 The word-based model 47
3.3 Morphological change 51
3.3.1 Pattern loss 51
3.3.2 Coalescence 53

3.3.3 Analogical change 54
3.3.4 Reanalysis 56
3.3.5 Other changes 57
Summary of Chapter 3 57
Further reading 58
Exercises 58

4 Inflection and derivation 60

4.1 Inflectional categories 60
4.2 Derivational meanings 68
4.2.1 Derived nouns 68
4.2.2 Derived verbs 69
4.2.3 Derived adjectives 69
4.3 Properties of inflection and derivation 70
4.4 Conceptualizations in morphological theory 77
4.4.1 The dichotomy approach 77
4.4.2 The continuum approach 79
4.4.3 A tripartition: contextual inflection, inherent inflection and derivation 81
Summary of Chapter 4 83
Further reading 83
Exercises 83

5 Morphological trees 85

5.1 Compounding 85
5.2 Hierarchical structure and head-dependent relations in compounds 90
5.3 Hierarchical structure and head-dependent relations in derived lexemes 93
Summary of Chapter 5 95
Further reading 96
Exercises 96

6 Productivity 99

6.1 Possible, actual and occasional words 99
6.2 Productivity, creativity and analogy 100
6.3 Restrictions on word-formation rules 103
6.3.1 Phonological restrictions 104
6.3.2 Semantic restrictions 105
6.3.3 Pragmatic restrictions 105
6.3.4 Morphological restrictions 106
6.3.5 Syntactic restrictions 106
6.3.6 Borrowed vocabulary strata 107
6.3.7 Synonymy blocking 108

6.4 Measuring productivity 109
6.5 Speakers' knowledge of productivity 110
Summary of Chapter 6 112
Further reading 113
Exercises 113

7 Inflectional paradigms 115

7.1 Types of inflection classes 115
7.2 Describing global inflection classes 122
7.3 Inheritance hierarchies 125
7.4 The role of stems in inflection 130
7.5 Productivity of inflection classes 133
7.6 Syncretism 136
7.6.1 Systematic versus accidental inflectional homonymy 137
7.6.2 Polyfunctionality versus vagueness 138
7.6.3 Natural syncretism 139
7.6.4 Rules of referral 140
7.7 Missing cells: defectiveness, deponency and periphrasis 142
Summary of Chapter 7 145
Further reading 145
Exercises 146

8 Words and phrases 148

8.1 Dividing text into words 148
8.2 Free forms versus bound forms 150
8.3 Clitics versus affixes 151
8.4 Compounds versus phrases 154
8.5 Lexical integrity 161
Summary of Chapter 8 163
Further reading 163
Exercises 163

9 Word-based rules 165

9.1 Syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations in morphology 165
9.2 Subtraction and back-formation 167
9.3 Cross-formation 169
9.4 Output constraints in morphology 171
9.4.1 Phonological output constraints 172
9.4.2 Semantic output constraints (or constructional meanings) 172
9.5 Triangular relationships 173
9.6 Bracketing paradoxes 175
9.7 Are morphemes unnecessary? 176

Summary of Chapter 9 179
Further reading 179
Exercises 179

10 Morphophonology 181

10.1 Two types of sound alternations 181
10.2 Process descriptions of sound alternations 188
10.3 Three types of morphophonological alternations 192
10.4 The diachrony of morphophonological alternations 195
10.5 Integrated versus neutral affixes 199
10.5.1 Lezgian 200
10.5.2 Yidiny 201
10.5.3 English 203
10.5.4 Level ordering 203
Summary of Chapter 10 206
Further reading 206
Exercises 207

11 Morphology and valence 209

11.1 Valence-changing operations 209
11.1.1 Semantic valence and syntactic valence (argument structure and function structure) 209
11.1.2 Agent-backgrounding operations 212
11.1.3 Patient-backgrounding operations 214
11.1.4 Agent-adding operations: causatives 215
11.1.5 Object-creating operations: applicatives 216
11.1.6 General properties of valence-changing operations 218
11.2 Valence in compounding 219
11.2.1 Noun incorporation 220
11.2.2 V–V compound verbs 221
11.2.3 Synthetic nominal compounds 223
11.3 Transpositional derivation 225
11.3.1 Transposition and argument inheritance 225
11.3.2 Action nouns (V → N) 226
11.3.3 Agent nouns (V → N) and deverbal adjectives (V → A) 228
11.3.4 Deadjectival transposition (A → N, A → V) 229
11.4 Transpositional inflection 230
Summary of Chapter 11 235
Further reading 235
Exercises 236

12 Frequency effects in morphology 237

12.1 Asymmetries in inflectional categories 237
12.1.1 Frequent and rare categories 238

12.1.2 The correlation between frequency and shortness 239
12.1.3 The correlation between frequency and differentiation 241
12.1.4 Local frequency reversals 243
12.1.5 Explaining the correlations 245
12.2 The direction of analogical levelling 245
12.3 Frequency and irregularity 247
12.4 Blocking strength and frequency 249
Summary of Chapter 12 251
Further reading 251
Exercises 251

References 253

Glossary of technical terms 265

Language index 277

Subject index 283