

# CSCD1034 Linguistics and Phonetics

## Study Notes

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\* Consonant: Phone restricted by tongue, teeth, lips, etc:

- labi-: lip
- dent-: teeth
- alveol-: alveolar ridge
- retroflex: tongue curled back
- palat-: palate
- vel-: velum (soft palate)
- uvul-: uvula
- pharynge-: pharynx (wall)
- glot-: glottis
- epiglot-: epiglottis
- plosive: articulators touch before and/or after separating
- nasal: airflow directed through nasal cavity
- fricative: airflow vibrates articulators as if flows past
- approximant: less restrictive than fricative
- lateral approximant: combined lateral and approximant
- affricate: combined plosive and fricative /tʃ dʒ/

\* Vowel: Always voiced, airway mostly unrestricted

- Tongue height may be close (high) or open (low)
- Tongue may be extended to the front or back
- Lips may or may not be rounded

\* Diphthong: Combination of two vowels /eɪ aɪ oʊ aʊ  
ɔɪ ɪə eə/

\* If one phone connects the end of one word and the beginning of another, record the phone with both words

\* Spaces are inserted entirely for readability. They usually are used in marking boundaries of words.

# Morphology

• The morphology of a language is the set of rules by which it forms words from morphemes, minimal units of meaning.

• A word may be:

- Content word, which has lexical meaning. These are the nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. These classes are open class, as they readily accept new entries.

- Function word, where it performs a grammatical function in a clause. These are the pronouns, articles, conjunctions and prepositions. These are closed class.

• A morpheme may be:

- Free morpheme, where it can exist as its own word as a monomorphemic word.

- Bound morpheme, where it must be fixed to other morphemes. Bound morphemes include:

- Affix, which is attached to either end of the word. Include:

- Prefix, attached to the beginning of the word.

- Suffix, attached to the end of the word.

- Circumfix, which surrounds the word.

- Infix, which appears inside another morpheme.

• Every language faces a trade-off between morphological complexity (expressing grammatical relations inflectionally) and syntactic complexity (expressing them periphrastically).

• A morpheme may be:

- Derivational morpheme, which adds lexical meaning and turns the word into a separate derived word. They may or not change the word class. Once a derived word is firmly established in the lexicon, alternative derivations may be blocked.

- Inflectional morpheme, which adds grammatical meaning to the word. The word class does not change. There are eight inflectional morphemes in English: third-person singular present tense verb, past tense verb, progressive verb, past participle, plural noun, possessive noun, comparative adjective, superlative adjective.

\* Use of derivational morphology results in the following processes of word creation:

- Eponym, where a proper noun is used more liberally.

- Compound word, made up of otherwise separate words

- Back-formation, resulting in mistaken application of morphological rules

- Blend, made up of fragments of separate words

- Clipping, abbreviation of long words

- Acronym, phonotactic sequence of initials of words

\* A morphological rule is productive when it can be applied to all words of the relevant class. Inflectional morphemes are productive, while some derivational morphemes are not.

\* Sign languages are as rich in morphology as spoken ones.