

4 Morphology: Compounding

4.1 Compounding

(1) Compounding: (Noun, Verb, Adjective, Prepositions)

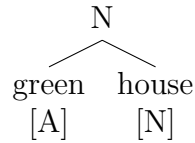
- a. Nouns: 'fire engine', 'oil well', 'green house', 'jump suit', etc.
- b. Verbs: 'spoon feed', 'dry clean', 'under estimate' 'spit shine', etc.
- c. Adjectives: 'sea green', 'red hot', 'over grown', etc.

(2) Definition of a compound:

- a. Rightmost is the head.
- b. head: determines the category of the compound word.
- c. compounds formed by other compounds: 'computer terminal stand'

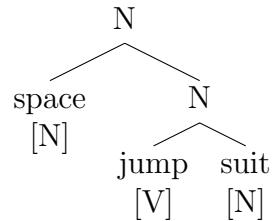
(3) Compound structure:

a.



(4) Multiple compound structure:

a.



(5) Compounds and stress

- a. 'a gréenhouse' vs. 'a green hóuse'
- b. 'He works in the gréenhouse at work.'
- c. 'Drive past the green hóuse on the corner.'

(6) More examples:

- a. 'I think the SR-71 bláckbird is an awesome looking jet.'
- b. 'There is a black bírd perched on the branch.'

(7) Compounds and inflection

- a. Verbal compounds: tense
- b. *'[dropp -ed] kick' vs. '[dropkick] -ed'
- c. Noun compounds: plural
- d. *'[Friday -s] night' vs. '[Friday night] -s'

(8) Meaning of compounds

- a. Endocentric: meaning denoted by its head.
- b. Exocentric: meaning not denoted by its parts
- c. 'computer mouse', 'light house', 'black ball', etc.

(9) Endocentric and Exocentric and irregular inflection:

- a. 'house mouse' and 'house mice'
- b. 'computer mouse' and '*computer mice/computer mouses'
- c. 'I have three computer *mice/mouses at home.'

4.2 Hmong Compounding

- (10) Hmong
- a. tus ntsuj plig dawb huv
 clf supernatural spirit white pure
 ‘The Holg Ghost’
 - b. tus tub txib
 clf man sent
 ‘A missionary’
- (11) Hmong
- a. lub plab plawv
 clf stomache heart
 ‘intelligence’
 - b. koj siab zoo.
 You [liver good]
 ‘You are [a good person].’

4.3 Incorporation

- (12) Incorporation
- a. A form of compounding based on syntactic movement of a noun to a verb.
 - b. V+N or N+V
 - c. hunting reindeer → reindeer hunting
 - d. I am bear/duck/moose hunting.
 - e. Could you please babysit for me.
- (13) Chuckchee (aka Chukot; Chukotko-Kamchatkan, Siberia)
- a. Tə -jaa -racwəŋ -melgar -maraw -ərken.
 I -distant -compete -gun -fight -PRES
 ‘I am fighting a duel.’
 or ‘I am gun fighting.’