
analytical methods in morphology and syntax assignment #2: functional categories and morphological processes

Due Thursday, July 3rd, 10:00 pm, Burke-Griffeth dining room. Name _____

exercise 0: midterm questions (10 points)

Please write two short-answer or “fill-in-the-blank” questions for the midterm quiz relating to the material for this week. Please do not submit multiple choice or true/false questions. The answers to your questions should come from the text or class discussions, and should not involve any problem solving of the sort required in the written assignments. Don't forget to provide the correct answer to your question. Two sample questions follow – please do not submit a question that resembles either of these. They are provided just to give you an idea of the *kind* of question that is needed. Full credit will be given for any question that meets all of these criteria, whether or not we actually use it on the quiz.

Sample question #1: Name four functional categories likely to be associated with nouns:

Answer: *number, gender/class, case, verbalization, definiteness, etc.*

Sample question #2: Judging from these examples, what can you say about the morphological typology of each language?

- a. Thai: Kip khàp rôt chon khwaay taay 'Kip ran into a buffalo and killed it.'
Kip drive car collide buffalo die

Thai appears to be a very isolating language. This means every word consists of a single morpheme, and is one extreme of the index of synthesis. For isolating languages, the index of fusion is not applicable.

- b. Nomatsiguenga: i-hoka-teta-be-ka-ri
3:MASC-throw-toward-frustration-reflexive-3:MASC
'He threw it to him but missed.'

Nomatsiguenga is very high on the index of synthesis. This means there are lots of morphemes per word. It is also low on the index of fusion. This means that almost every morpheme is clearly separable from the others. The only possible counterexample to this observation is that 3rd person and Masculine seem to be expressed by one morpheme. This is the only instance of fusion exhibited in this example.

exercise 2.3: Katu (20 points)

Adapted from Merrifield et. al. 1987 #19.

A. Where is Katu spoken? _____

1. gap	'to cut'	5. ganap	'scissors'
2. juut	'to rub'	6. januut	'cloth'
3. panh	'to shoot'	7. pananh	'crossbow'
4. piih	'to sweep'	8. paniih	'broom'

B. What morphological process is illustrated in these data?

C. Describe in detail the "functional category" that distinguishes the words in the second column from the corresponding words in the first column.

exercise 2.7: Samoan I (25 points)

O'Grady, et al. (2001)

1. mate	'he dies'	mamate	'they die'
2. nofo	'he stays'	nonofo	'they stay'
3. galue	'he works'	galulue	'they work'
4. tanu	'he buries'	tatanu	'they bury'
5. alofa	'he loves'	alolofa	'they love'
6. ta'oto	'he lies'	ta'o'oto	'they lie'
7. atama'i	'he is intelligent'	atamama'i	'they are intelligent'

A. What morphological process is illustrated in these data?

B. Describe the rule as explicitly as you can.

C. If 'he is strong' is *malosi*, How would you say 'they are strong' in Samoan?

exercise 2.11: 'Ebembe (35 points)

Myra Adamson and Tom Payne

1. namona	'I see.'	16. na'utocila	'I ask for you.'
2. 'umona	'You see.'	17. na'utocilile	'I asked for you.'
3. 'utoca	'You ask.'	18. twamonana	'We see each other.'
4. 'untoca	'You ask me.'	19.	'You saw each other.'
5. 'umtoca	'You ask him/her.'	20. twamonanile	'We saw each other.'
6. na'waca	'I believe.'	21. twatocanile	'We asked each other.'
7. na'u'waca	'I believe you.'	22. na'u'wacilile	'I believed for you.'
8. namtoca	'I ask him/her'	23. 'ukyum'waca	'You always believe him/her.'
9. namtocile	'I asked him/her'	24. akyuntoca	'He/she always asks me.'
10. na'umona		25. 'ukyummona	'You always see him/her.'
11.	'I saw you.'	26.	'I always saw you.'
12.	'I believed you.'	27. twakyu'umonile	'We always saw you.'
13. twamtoca	'We ask him/her'	28.	'We always see each other.'
14.	'We asked him/her'	29.	'We always saw each other.'
15.	I ask you.'		

A. Where is 'Ebembe spoken? _____ What language family does it belong to? _____

B. Fill in all of the missing translations, either English or 'Ebembe.

C. Make a "position class" diagram of the 'Ebembe verb. Include every morpheme represented in these data, along with its gloss.

extra credit: exercise 2.14 Orkhono-Yeniseyan (up to 5 extra credit points)

by Svetlana Burlak

The following sentences are from the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language, an ancient language of Western Asia. Scrolls containing passages in this language were found near the confluence of the Orkhon and Yenisey rivers.

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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Oghuling baliqigh alti. | 'Your son conquered the city.' |
| 2. Baz oghuligh yangilti. | 'The vassal betrayed the son.' |
| 3. Siz baliqimizin buzdingiz. | 'You (pl) destroyed our city.' |
| 4. Qaghanimiz oghulingin yangilti. | 'Our king betrayed your (sg) son.' |
| 5. Oghulim barqingin buzdi. | 'My son destroyed your (sg) house.' |
| 6. Siz qaghanigh yangiltingiz. | 'You (pl) betrayed the king.' |
| 7. Biz baliqigh altimiz. | 'We conquered the city.' |
| 8. Bazim qaghanimizin yangilti . | 'My vassal betrayed our king.' |

A. List all the morphemes in these data, along with their English glosses. There may be more than one adequate way of dividing morphemes. Whichever way you choose, be sure it is *consistent*:

Nouns/pronouns:

Verbs:

Affixes:

B. Translate the following into English (Yes you *can* figure out what 'men' means!):

Qaghan baliqigh alti

Men barqigh buzdim.

C. Translate into the Orkhono-Yeniseyan language:

The son conquered your city.

The king betrayed the vassal.

Your vassal destroyed my house.

