2. Morphological Typology

English is predominantly an isolating language, as most words consist of single morphemes. For example.

(5) My brother will go to the store after dinner 1SG.GEN hermano AUX.FUT ir a DEF tienda después la.cena 'Mi hermano irá a la tienda después de la cena.'

Historically, however, English was quite fusional. Remnants of this stage are still present in certain synchronically irregular verbs (see section #6.2).

Modern English also displays agglutinative characteristics due to the heavy influence of Latin and French.

(6) a. trans-sub-stanti-ation 'trasustanciación'

trás-bajo-estar-NOMLZR

b. in-support-able 'insoportable'

NEG-apoyar-ABL

The derivational affixes in 6a and b are all of Latin origin, but many are fully productive in modern English, even with non-Latinate stems. For example.

(7) a. trans-ship 'pasar de un barco a otro'

tras-barco/cargar

b. ship-able 'cargable'

cargar-ABL