

# Chapter 9-10

Morphology and Syntax

Engl 423

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# Words



## What do we mean by Word?

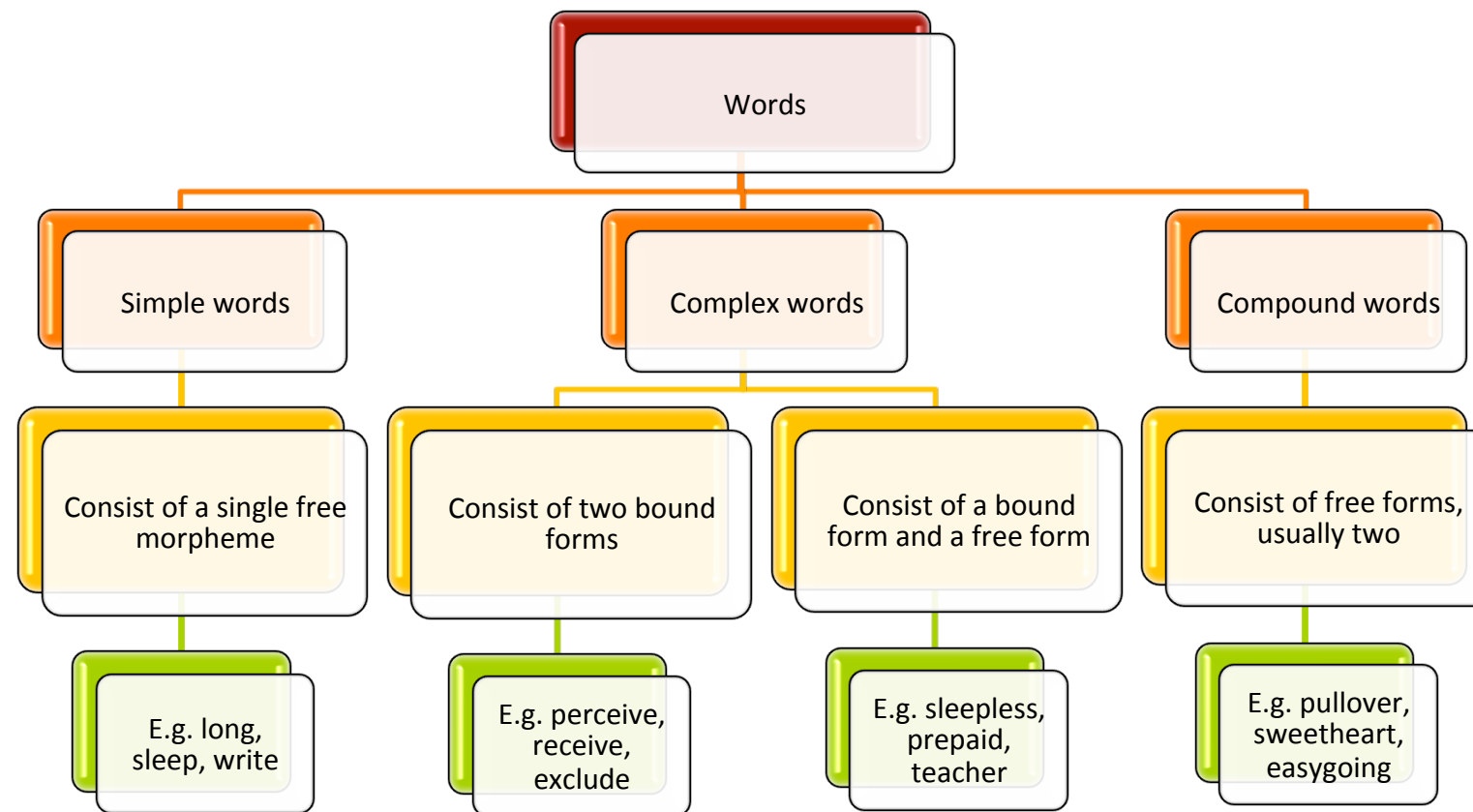
The term Word can be defined as a free morpheme or combination of morphemes that together form a basic segment of speech.

**So, from this definition** we can exclude the single bound morphemes such as pre, ceive, and full.

Professor Charles F. Hockett defines the word as “ A word is any segment of a sentence bounded by successive points at which pauses is possible”

**So, from this definition** we can exclude the two-parts-verbs such as call off (cancel), keep on (continue), take off (depart), show up (appear). Because English speakers consider these verbs as words so they do not pause between them.

# Classification of words



# Grammatical relationship of the compound words

Compound Words reflect grammatical relationships like the following

Subject + verb	crybaby	baby cries
Verb + object	Killjoy	Kills joy
Verb + adverbial	Stay-at-home	Stays at home
Subject + be + adjectival	High chair	Chair is high
Subject + be + nominal	Girl friend	Friend is a girl
Subject + be + adverbial	Ingroup	Group is in
prepositional phrase	Extrasensory	Beyond the senses
Adjective modified by prepositional phrase	Carefree	Free from care
coordination	Give-and-take	Give and take

# Compound words and grammatical structures

➤ How can we differentiate between the compound words and the grammatical structures?

1- We cannot divide the two parts of the compound words, but grammatical structures can be divided.

E.g. a- She is a sweetheart → cannot be divided

b- She has a sweet heart → can be divided,

e.g. she has a sweet kind heart

Compound word

Grammatical structure

2- The parts of the compound words cannot be considered as a single grammatical structure.

E.g. the compound word **baseball** is different from **hard ball**, because we can modify the adjective **hard** by the word **very**, so we can say **very hard ball**, but we cannot say **very baseball**.

a- Baseball

b- Hard ball

Compound word

Grammatical structure

# Processes of word formation

## 1- Borrowing:

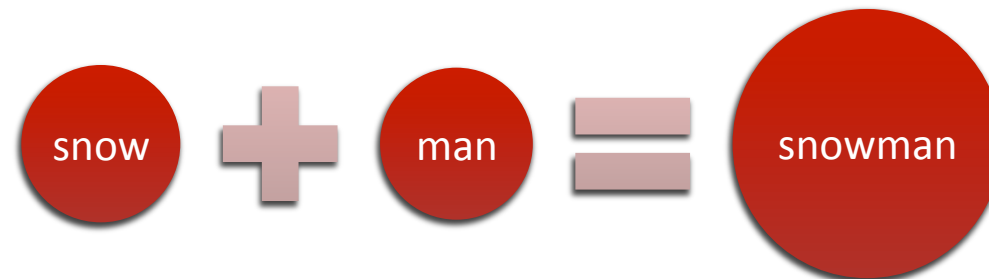
English language used to borrow a huge number of words through invasions, immigration, exploration, trade and other forms of contact between English and other languages.

English Word	Origin	Meaning
Déjà vu	French	a feeling of having already experienced the present situation
Bonanza	Spanish	a source of good fortune and wealth
Gung-ho	Chinese	to be overly enthusiastic and eager, especially in wars
Tycoon	Japanese	great lord
Ghoul	Arabic	an evil spirit who purportedly robs graves
Shawl	Persian	fabric worn around shoulders, head or to wrap round a baby.
Bandanna	Hindi	large colored scarf
Campus	Latin	Field, plain

# Processes of word formation

## 2- Compounding

The joining of two or more words into a single word is another technique to form new words.

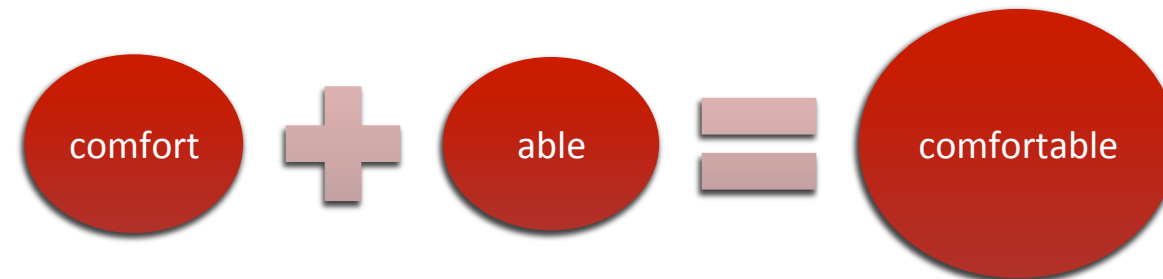


\* Some compound words may be written as one word (such as download), some as hyphenated words (such as baby-sitting), or as two words, (such as game plan).

# Processes of word formation

## 3- Derivation

The forming of new words by combining derivational affixes or bound bases with existing words.



## 4- Invention

The creating of totally new words.

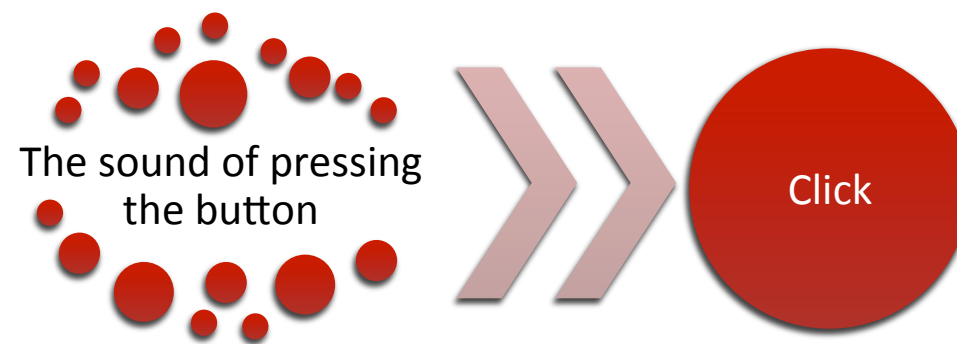
E.g. blurb, Kodak, nylon.



# Processes of word formation

## 5- Echoism

The formation of words whose sound suggests their meaning.

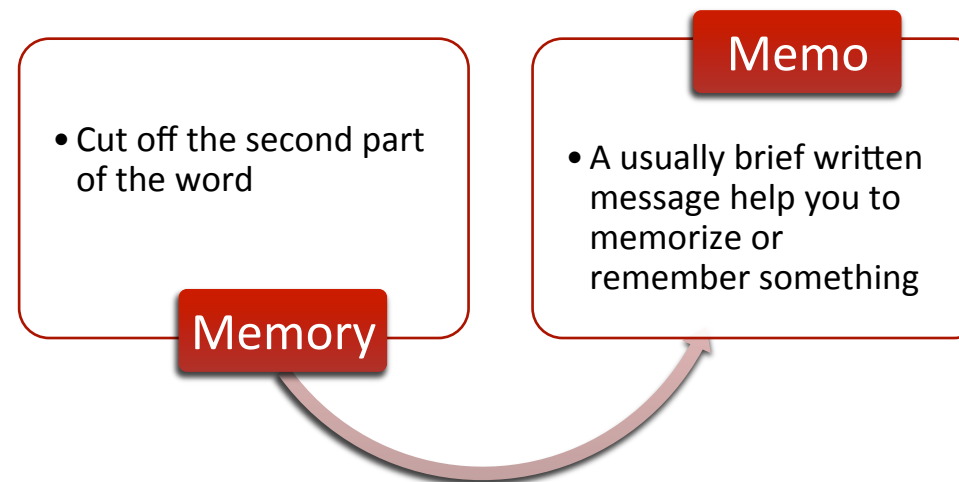


E.g. hiss, quack, ring, thunder.

# Processes of word formation

## 6- Clipping

Cutting off the beginning or the end of a word, or both, leaving a part to stand for the whole.



E.g. psych → psychology → cut off the end of the word.

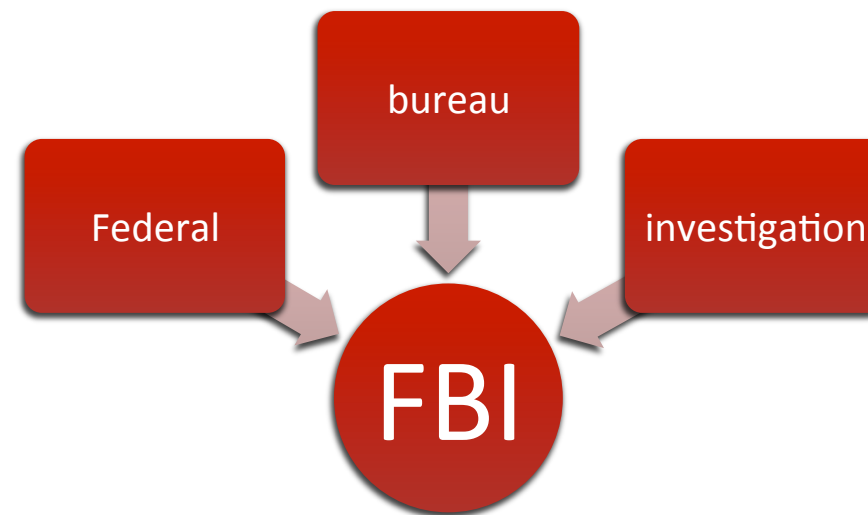
plane → airplane → cut off the beginning of the word.

flu → influenza → cut off both parts.

# Processes of word formation

## 7- Acronymy

The process whereby a word is formed from the initials or beginning segments of a succession of words.

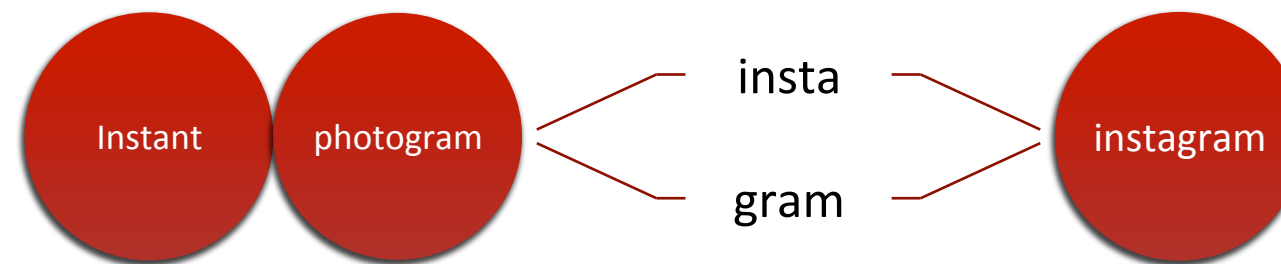


In some cases, the initials are pronounced as letter, such as VIP (very important person), and in other cases the initials are pronounced as the spelled word would be, such as Unesco (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

# Processes of word formation

## 8- Blending

The fusion of two words into one into one, usually the first part of one word with the last part of another.



**E.g.** gasohol (from *gasoline* and *alcohol*), biopic (from *biography* and *picture*).

This is all for today

Your homework

Find 2 examples for each process of word formation mentioned above.

**SEE YOU NEXT WEEK 😊**