

Morphology Exercises

1. Arabic (Semitic)

Like Number in Latin (Indo-European) which is “combined” with case, Definiteness is combined with case in Arabic (Semitic).

For the table below, identify the Nominative Definite, Nominative Indefinite, the Definite Genitive, Indefinite Genitive, the Definite Accusative and the Indefinite Accusative

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|--|--|
| a. ‘Ana Igra’a al-kitaba
I read the book | d. ‘Ana Igra’a kitaban
I read a book |
| b. ‘Ana ʔataitaha al-kitabi
I gave him the book | e. kitabun
A book |
| c. al-kitabu
The book | f. ‘Ana ʔataitaha kitabin
I gave him a book |

3. Malayalam (Dravidian)

What are the morphemes for Nominative, Accusative and Dative
Remember, a morpheme can be 0.

- | | |
|---|--|
| a. kutti karaññu.
child cried
‘The child cried.’ | e. eliye puucca tinnu.
rat cat ate
‘The cat ate the rat.’ |
| b. puucca uraṅgi.
cat slept
‘The cat slept.’ | f. kutti ammakka aanaye wittu.
child mother elephant sold
‘The child sold the elephant to Mother.’ |
| c. kutti aanaye nulli.
child elephant pinched
‘The child pinched the elephant.’ | g. kuttikka puuccaye aana kotuttu.
child cat elephant gave
‘The elephant gave the cat to the child.’ |
| d. kuttiye aana ikkilyaakki.
child elephant tickled
‘The elephant tickled the child.’ | h. amma pakshiye puuccakka kotuttu.
mother bird cat gave
‘Mother gave the bird to the cat.’ |

4. Zulu (Niger Congo)

Consider the following nouns in Zulu and proceed to look for the recurring forms.

umfazi	“married woman”	abafazi	“married women”
umfani	“boy”	abafani	“boys”
umzali	“parent”	abazali	“parents”
umfundisi	“teacher”	abafundisi	“teachers”
umbazi	“carver”	ababazi	“carvers”
umlimi	“farmer”	abalimi	“farmers”
umdlali	“player”	abadlali	“players”
umfundi	“reader”	abafundi	“readers”

- What is the morpheme meaning “singular” in Zulu?
- What is the morpheme meaning “plural” in Zulu?
- List the Zulu stems to which the singular and plural morphemes are attached, and give their meanings.

1. Khmu (Austroasiatic) is a small language, spoken in China, Laos, and Vietnam. What does the infix in the following examples do?

	Verb	Noun	
("to drill")	<i>see</i>	<i>srnee</i>	("a drill")
("to chisel")	<i>toh</i>	<i>trnoh</i>	("a chisel")
("to eat with a spoon")	<i>hiip</i>	<i>hrniip</i>	("a spoon")
("to tie")	<i>hoom</i>	<i>hrnoom</i>	("a thing with which to tie")

2. Bahasa Indonesia (Austronesian) is the national language of Indonesia and the L2 of more than 140 million speakers.

("big")	<i>besar</i>	<i>kebesaran</i>	("bigness")
("beautiful")	<i>indah</i>	<i>keindahan</i>	("beauty")
("healthy")	.....	<i>kesehatan</i>	("health")
("free")	.....	<i>kebebasan</i>	("freedom")
("kind")	<i>baik</i>	.....	("kindness")
("honest")	<i>jujur</i>	.....	("honesty")

a. What are the missing forms?

b. What is the morpheme?

c. What does the morpheme do (mean)?

d. Look at the words: *ketidakjujuran* ("dishonesty"); *ketidaksenangan* ("unhappiness"); *ketidakadilan* ("injustice"); *ketidakpuasan* ("dissatisfaction"). What do you think the Bahasa Indonesia words would be for "happy," "just/fair" and "satisfied"?

3. English (Indo-European) has a complex set of allomorphs to express Plural. Identify the Plural allomorphs for the word list: *criteria, dogs, oxen, deer, judges, stimuli, data*

4. Here are some examples from Swahili (Niger–Congo)

<i>ni- ta- ku- penda</i>	<i>nitakupenda</i> ("I will love you")	<i>alipita</i> ("She passed by")
"I will you love"	<i>watanilipa</i> ("They will pay me")	<i>uliwapika</i> ("You cooked them")
	<i>tutaondoka</i> ("We will leave")	<i>walimpiga</i> ("They beat him")

4. Tagalog (Austronesian) is the national language of the Philippines. It has about 100 million L2 speakers.

<i>basa</i> ("read")	<i>tawag</i> ("call")	<i>sulat</i> ("write")
<i>bumasa</i> ("Read!")	<i>tumawag</i> ("Call!")	<i>sumulat</i> ("Write!")
<i>babasa</i> ("will read")	<i>tatawag</i> ("will call")	<i>susulat</i> ("will write")

Using the paradigm above, complete the table.

<i>lakad</i> ("walk")	_____ ("Walk!")	_____ ("will walk")	
<i>lapit</i> ("come here")	_____ ("Come here!")	_____ ("will come here")	
("Write!")	<i>sumulat</i>	("Call!")	<i>tumawag</i>
("was written")	<i>sinulat</i>	("was called")	<i>tinawag</i>
("is writing")	<i>sumusulat</i>	("is calling")	<i>tumatawag</i>
("is being written")	<i>sinusulat</i>	("is being called")	<i>tinatawag</i>

Using both paradigms, predict the translations for the following.

1 ("Buy!")	6 ("is eating")	3 ("was broken")	8 ("is being broken")
2 ("was bought")	7 ("is breaking")	4 ("was looked for")	9 ("is being looked for")
		5 ("is looking for")	10 ("is being eaten")