

Objectives:

- **Syllable-building rules (check-in)**
- **Restrictions on syllable structure**
- **English onset clusters**

Background preparation:

- *Handout: "...Describing syllabification options"*
- *Handout: "Syllable-building rules"*

0. Today's plan

- Review and context: Syllable-structure analysis
- What are some possible and impossible English onset clusters?
- Sonority and the sonority scale

0. Course information

- Check-in: Any questions about **skill-check HW** assignments #1–3?

1. Review and context

- When our goal is to propose a **phonological analysis** of **syllable structure** for a data set...
 - What steps do we follow?

1. Review and context

1. **Determine** where the **syllable boundaries** are
 - May require **argumentation!**
2. **Describe** syllable structure in the language by figuring out the settings for **syllabification options**
3. **Present a formal analysis** by applying the **syllable-building rules**, constrained as necessary by the “options” settings
4. Are any **other rules** necessary for your analysis after syllable-structure has been assigned?

2. Possible English onset clusters

- A question to consider:

What are some of the **phonological factors** involved in **restrictions** on possible nuclei, onset clusters, codas, coda clusters, etc.?

2. Possible English onset clusters

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- **Case study:** Legal English onset clusters
 - Checking in: Are these legal onset clusters in English? (What is your evidence?)
[ph] [ps] [cl] [ck] [kw]

2. Possible English onset clusters

Group discussion

- Legal English onset clusters
 - 1 Clusters that start with voiceless stops or fricatives other than [s]
 - 2 Clusters that start with voiced stops or fricatives
 - 3 Clusters that start with [s]
 - 4 Combinations of two consonants that are not legal onset clusters (list at least 10; try to include different types)
- Can you state any generalizations?

2. Possible English onset clusters

Debriefing

- What questions or issues came up for your group in this activity?
- What patterns can we identify overall?
 - Can we make any relatively simple **generalizations** about any of the subcases of legal onset clusters?

2. Possible English onset clusters

Debriefing

- Can we make any relatively simple **generalizations** about any of the subcases of legal onset clusters?
 - Some potential clusters are ruled out because:
 - Place of articulation too similar
 - Obstruents have to agree in voicing
- Pay special attention to lists 1 and 2 (clusters that begin with stops and fricatives other than [s])
 - Any insightful generalizations here?

3. The sonority scale

- Data set: Deriving the sonority scale
 - What is sonority / the sonority scale?
 - What kinds of phonological patterns can it help us explain?

3. The sonority scale

- Does the sonority scale shed any light on any of the patterns we have seen in **English onset clusters**?

4. For next time

- Review for midterm exam — post questions to Padlet (or bring questions to class)
 - Resources:
 - Exam review guide
 - Skill-check HW data sets
- Discussion of WU #1