

**Discussion questions: Katamba & Stonham (2006), Aikhenvald (2007)**

Katamba, Francis, and John Stonham. 2006. Section 3.7 of Chapter 3, Types of morphemes. *Morphology*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 42-66 (this excerpt, 58-63).

Aikhenvald, Alexandra Y. 2007. Sections 7-10 of Chapter 1, Typological distinctions in word formation. In Timothy Shopen (ed.), *Language Typology and Syntactic Description, vol III: Grammatical Categories and the Lexicon*, 2ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1-65 (this excerpt: 49-64).

### I. Katamba & Stonham (2006)

This reading is from an introductory morphology textbook. We won't spend much class time on it unless people have questions, but it should be helpful to you for future readings.

- (1) [not for RR] Be sure you are familiar with these terms for types of morphological systems, because you will encounter them frequently in other readings:  
*analytic/isolating*      *agglutinative*      *inflecting/synthetic/fusional*  
*polysynthetic*      *incorporation*      *templatic (root-and-pattern) morphology*
- (2) [not for RR] It's worth considering how much weight we'd really want to give to a numerical system of morphological classification like that described at the end of this reading.

### II. Aikhenvald (2007)

- (3) What is *productivity*? Why is the word *synchronic* important in the definition? How does Aikhenvald suggest representing a non-productive morpheme in the linguistic system? (Note also the alternative considered in footnote 13.)
- (4) More questions about productivity:
  - (a) What factors are said by Aikhenvald to condition productivity? How?
  - (b) What kinds of factors are found to restrict productivity?
  - (c) Do you think these questions have implications for the architecture of the mental grammar?
- (5) [not for RR] In §7.4, Aikhenvald says, "Productive derivational devices can get lexicalized..." What does this mean? What would be evidence that this has happened?
- (6) A paradigm can have a *gap*. What is a gap in this sense? How might we represent the existence of paradigm gaps in a model of linguistic competence/mental grammar?
- (7) What are *grammaticalization* and *lexicalization*? Are these synchronic or diachronic processes? How are they related to morphological productivity? Are there distinctions between inflectional and derivational morphology with respect to these processes?
- (8) [not for RR] §9 might be useful to look at as an overview. Don't worry about terms we haven't seen yet, but looking at what Aikhenvald says about the terms introduced in the Katamba & Stonham reading or the first-day terminology handout may be helpful.
- (9) [not for RR] Hang on to §10 for use with your Friday data presentation or maybe even your final project.