Introduction to Linguistics:
Quiz 3 (Morphology) Practice questions

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Your Name: _____

The quiz will be **multiple-choice** and questions will be selected from the following topics. There will be some open-ended questions from the homework or the textbook.

(1) What is *morphology*? What is a *morpheme*? How many morphemes are there in the following words: *teach, teacher, teachers, modern, modernize, modernized, re-modernized, ass, asses*, and *assassin*.

   a) *Morphology* is a study of words in language
   b) *Morpheme* is a minimal meaning-bearing unit in a language
      i) *teach* (1), *teach-er* (2), *teach-er-s* (3), *modern* (1), *modern-ize* (2), *modern-iz(e)-ed* (3), *re-modern-iz(e)-ed* (4), *ass* (1), *ass-es* (2), and *assassin* (1).

(2) What is *coinage*? Explain it with a few examples.

   a) *Coinage* is a process of creating new words in a language. It is usually used for the name of a newly invented product; for example, *Kleenex, Vaseline, Wikipedia* etc.

(3) What is the difference between *coinage* and *eponym*? Which of the following words are eponym?: *Watt* (after James Watt, a late 19th-century scientist), *Sony, Dacron, boycott* (Charles Boycott, a 19th-century land agent in Ireland who refused to lower rents), *Kleenex, Teflon*, and *curie* (Marie and Pierre Curie, early 20th-century scientists).

   a) *Eponym* also refers to the invention of newly coined words, but they take after the name of a person or a place. In the examples above, *Watt, boycott*, and *curie* are the examples of eponym.

(4) What is *compounding*? Explain this new word formation process using the following examples.: *bluebird, jumpsuit, overlook, nationwide, breakdance, afterthought, greenhouse, brainwash, whitewash, fire-drill, airplane, airfield, firetruck, bathtub, policeman, watchdog*, and *dryclean*

   a) *Compounding* is a process that combine two existing two words to create a new word. All examples above are compounding.

(5) What is *conversion*? Explain this new word formation process with the following examples: *ink, butter, ship, nail, button, run, drink, drive, report, call, dirty, empty, better, right, total, implant, import, present, subject*, and *contest*

   a) *Conversion* is a process that changes the part-of-speech of a word. For example, the word *text* is traditionally a noun, but we can also use it as a verb as in *I will text you tomorrow.*

(6) What is *clipping*? Explain this new word formation process with the following examples: *professor, physical education, political science, automobile, laboratory, substitute, delicatessen, permanent wave, demonstration, condominium, zoological garden*, and *facsimile*

   a) *Clipping* is a process to create a new word by taking only part of an existing word.

(7) What is *blending*? Explain this new word formation process with the following examples: *brunch, smog, spam, telethon, aerobicise, e-mail, workaholic, medicare, guesstimate, cyborg, spork, internet, edutatiment, Bollywood*, and *Microsoft*

   a) *Blending* is a process to create a new word by putting part of the two words together.

(8) What is *back-formation*? Explain this new word formation process with the following examples: *editor/to edit, swindler/to swindle, paddler/to paddle*, and *television/to televise*

   a) *Back-formation* is a process to create a new word by reducing an existing word. Unlike clipping, this process usually takes place when we create a verb from a coined word

(9)   What is *acronym*? Explain this new word formation process with the following examples: *CUNY, BTW, FAQ, FYI, LOL, OMG, BF, GF, WTF, BBS, JK, NP, TY, YW, ROFLOL, BBIAB, AFAIC, IMHO* etc.

    a) *Acronym* is a process to create a new word by taking the initial letter from a word sequence.

(10)   What is the difference between *free morpheme* and *bound morpheme*? Use the following words in your explanation: *phone, cellphone, cellphones, listener, educator, beer, center, nation, national, nationalize, internationalize, internationalization, re-internationalization, act, action, active, activation, reactivation, dual-reactivation* etc.

    a) *Free morpheme* can be used as a single word by itself
    b) *Bound morpheme* cannot be used by itself and it must always be attached to the stem (free morpheme)
    c) For example,

        i) *cellphones* consists of *cell* (free), *phone* (free) and *-s* (bound)
        ii) *re-internationalization* consists of *re-* (bound), *inter-* (bound), *nation* (free), *-al* (bound), *-ize* (bound), and *ation* (bound)

(11)   What is the difference between *prefix* and *suffix*? Use the following words in your explanation: *reset, input, enlists, type, typing, steps, overstep, overstepping, enlist, enlisting, enlisted* etc.

    a) *Prefix* a bound morpheme that attaches to the beginning of the stem
    b) *Suffix* a bound morpheme that attaches to the end of the stem
    c) For example,

        i) *reset*: *re-* is a prefix
        ii) *input*: *in-* is a prefix
        iii) *overstepping*: *-ing* is a suffix
        iv) *enlisted*: *en-* is a prefix and *-ed* is a suffix

(12)   What is the difference between *lexical class* (a.k.a., open class) and *functional class* (a.k.a., closed class)?

    a) *Lexical class* is a class of productive morphemes (i.e., you can create a new word based on the morpheme) and it includes noun, verb, adverb, adjective, and some prepositions
    b) *Functional class* is a class of non-productive morphemes that include conjunction (e.g., *and, but, or*), auxiliary verbs (e.g., *is, are, was, were* etc.), modal (e.g., *must, will, might, shall, should* etc.)

(13)   What is the difference between *inflection* and *derivation*? In English, there are only a limited number of morphemes for one of these two morphemes – which is it? Also, explain the distinction with the following words: *citizens*, *enlarge*, *assignments*, *winner*, and *tighter*.

    a) *Inflectional morpheme* only indicates a different aspect of the word (e.g., different NUMBER, GENDER, PAST- OR PRESENT-TENSE etc.)
    b) *Derivational morpheme* often changes the part-of-speech of a word and incurs a significant change in the meaning of the word

(14)   What is *affix* or *affixization*?

    a) *Affix/Affixization* is a process to attach a bound morpheme to a stem