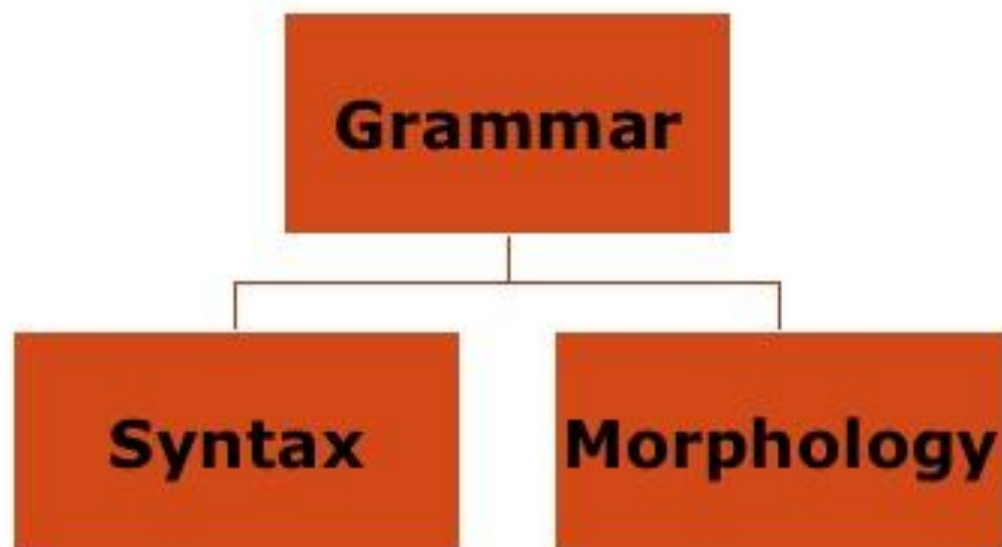


**Two parts of grammar:  
morphology and syntax, their  
objects**

**Done by: Kerimkul G**

# Elements of Grammar

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## C. What is MORPHOLOGY?

- Morphology is the branch of linguistics that studies *the structure of words*.
- Morphology deals with the syntax of complex words and parts of words, also called **morphemes**, as well as with the semantics of their lexical meanings.

## **B. IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING MORPHOLOGY**

**Decoding** – Readers who recognize morphemes read more quickly and accurately.

**Vocabulary** – Knowledge of meaning of word parts expands reader's vocabulary.

**Comprehension** - Knowledge of morphemes helps makes meaning from text.

**Spelling** - Morphemes are units that can be predictably spelled.



# Morphology

- set of morphemes + the rules of how they are combined.
- “word grammar”

# Word at different level

- Phonological word (Deer is dear but dear)
- Lexical item\ Lexeme (take,took,taken...)
- Grammatical word form\ Morphosyntactic word (ball, balls)
- Semantic words (table, table)

- In English and many other languages, many words can be broken down into parts. For example:

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| ● unhappiness | un-happi-ness |
| ● horses      | horse-s       |
| ● walking     | walk-ing      |

# Syntax

The study of:

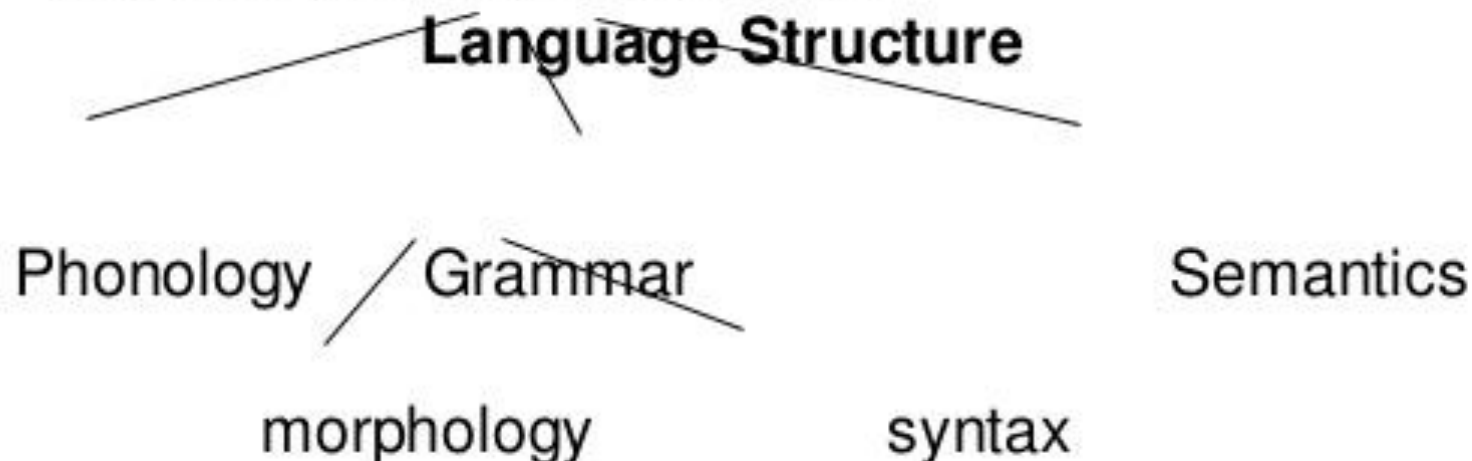
- Grammatical relations between words and other units within the sentence
- Word order
- Sentence formation



## Definition of Syntax (1)

- “syntaxis” (Greek) = “arrangement”
- The rules of sentence formation; the study of the structure of sentences.

Syntax: the study of the structure of sentences and the grammatical rules governing the way words are combined to form sentences.



(the specific sense; more traditional)

# **WORD = MORPHEME?**

**Word** - the smallest free-standing sign in a language

**Morpheme** – the smallest sign in a language (smallest form with a specific meaning).

## Free Morpheme

are words with a complete meaning, so they can stand alone as an independent word in a sentence.

Example: girl, boy, mother, etc

## Bound Morpheme

are lexical items incorporated into a word as a dependent part. They cannot stand alone, but must be connected to another morpheme.

Example: -un, -s, -ed, etc.



## FREE MORPHEMES

### Content words/ Lexical words

this group includes nouns, verbs, adverbs and adjectives

Examples: *happy, run, man, pizza, pretty, easy*

### Function words/ Grammatical words

this group includes conjunctions, articles, pronouns and prepositions

Examples: *to, but, and, that, there, first, often, soon, none, all*

- We can further divide bound morphemes into three categories:

- **prefix**                      *un*-happy
- **infix**                      mother-*in*-law
- **suffix**                      happi-*ness*

- The general term for all three is **Affix**.