

Morphology Exercise (3): Stating some rules

- List the rules that describe the pronunciation of the regular plural ending of English nouns. Refer only to the sound system of the language. Do not refer to the orthography.
- State the rules for forming the plural of a word ending in the letter *y*.
- In English, there are two morphological strategies for forming the comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives: adding *-er* or *-est* to the end of the adjective, and placing *more* or *most* in front of it. What are the rules that determine which strategy should be followed in a particular case?
- How many different forms does a regular (weak) verb normally have in English? How many different forms does a strong verb normally have in English? Which verb has the greatest number of different forms, and how many does it have?
- Sometimes, when we form the present participle (*-ing*) form of a verb, we double the final letter of the infinitive form before adding *-ing*. Under what conditions is this done? Refer both to the orthography and to the sound system of English in formulating your answer.