Unit 11
Syllables & Rhythm (2):
morphophonology and stress

Slides for the session of
Phonetics with Listening Practice (British)
held on
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⟨English Phonetics: Unit 11:⟩
/ˈɪŋ.glɪʃ/ /fə.ˈnet.ɪks/ /ˈjuːn.ɪt/ /ɪˈlev.n̩/
[ˈi̞ŋ.gɫ̩əʃ.fə.ˈneɾ.əks.ˈju̞ːn.əɾ. əɫev.n̩] (AusE, broad)

⟨Syllables & Rhythm (2)⟩
/ˈsɪl.əb.ᵊlz/ /ən/ /ˈrɪð.əm/ /tuː/
[ˈsi̞ɫ.əb.ɫ̩z.n̩.ˈɹʷi̞ð.m̩. | ˈtʰu̞ː] (AusE, broad)

/ˌmɔːf.əʊ.fəʊ.ˈnɒl.ədʒ.i/ /ənd/ /ˈstres/
[ˌmoːf.ɐ̈ʊ̯.fə.ˈnɔ̝ɫ.ədʒ.i ən ˈstɹ̝es] (AusE, broad)

1. **A phonological rank scale for English**

2. **Morphophonology (1): the phonology of flexional morphology**

3. **Morphophonology (2): the phonology of derivational morphology (1)**

4. **Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …**

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Syllables & Rhythm (2):

Outline

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Morphophonology (1): the phonology of flexional morphology

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Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …

A phonological rank scale for English

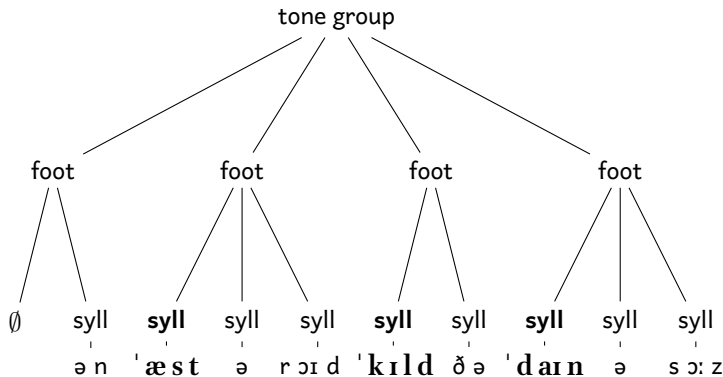$\varphi\omega\nu$

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(Context: 'What happened 65 million years ago?')

tone group $\longrightarrow$ foot $\longrightarrow$ syllable $\longrightarrow$ phoneme

This is the most minimalistic description of English phonological units that actually works.

Flexional morphophonology: plural and/or genitive

- The regular plural morpheme (typical spelling: ⟨s⟩) is realized phonologically in three different ways:

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  - /s/ after a voiceless consonant (but see below), e.g. ⟨cats⟩ /kæts/

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  - /z/ after a voiced consonant (but see below) or a vowel/diphthong, e.g.
    ⟨dogs⟩ /dɒgz/
    ⟨mares⟩ /meəz/

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    - /ɪz/ after a 'sibilant' (/s z ʃ ʒ tʃ dʒ/), e.g.
      ⟨horses⟩ /hɔːs.ɪz/

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- The same applies to the ⟨'s⟩ genitive of nouns, and to the third person singular present indicative of verbs ⟨walks⟩ /s/, ⟨hugs⟩ /z/, ⟨teaches⟩ /ɪz/.

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- Could we perhaps interpret these facts in terms of ELISION and ASSIMILATION?

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- Could we perhaps interpret these facts in terms of ELISION and ASSIMILATION?
- Note: the American and Australian pronunciation of the plural morpheme after a sibilant is more like [əz] than [ɪz].

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- Could we perhaps interpret these facts in terms of ELISION and ASSIMILATION?

- Note: the American and Australian pronunciation of the plural morpheme after a sibilant is more like [əz] than [ɪz].

- Note:
  ⟨Governors-General⟩ (plural)
  ⟨Governor-General's⟩ (genitive singular).

Flexional morphophonology: past tense

- The regular past tense morpheme (typical spelling: ⟨ed⟩) is realized phonologically in three different ways:

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Flexional morphophonology: past tense

- The regular past tense morpheme (typical spelling: ⟨ed⟩) is realized phonologically in three different ways:
    - /t/ after a voiceless consonant (but see below), e.g. ⟨faced⟩ /feɪst/

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Flexional morphophonology: past tense

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    - /t/ after a voiceless consonant (but see below), e.g. ⟨faced⟩ /feɪst/
    - /d/ after a voiced consonant (but see below) or a vowel/diphthong, e.g.
      ⟨fazed⟩ /feɪzd/
      ⟨laid⟩ /leɪd/

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  - /ɪd/ after /t/ or /d/ ⟨fated⟩ /ˈfeɪtɪd/ ⟨faded⟩ /ˈfeɪdɪd/

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  - /ɪd/ after /t/ or /d/
    ⟨fated⟩ /ˈfeɪtɪd/ ⟨faded⟩ /ˈfeɪdɪd/
- The following remarks refer to the spelling conventions for libretti (e.g. Handel's *Messiah*) written a few centuries ago; these often contain past tense endings that have to be pronounced /ɪd/ for purely metrical reasons:

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Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …

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Flexional morphophonology: past tense

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    - /ɪd/ after /t/ or /d/
      ⟨fated⟩ /ˈfeɪtɪd/ ⟨faded⟩ /ˈfeɪdɪd/
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- In earlier forms of English, ⟨ed⟩ and ⟨'d⟩ were used to spell /ɪd/ and /d/ (or /t/) respectively.

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Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …

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- In earlier forms of English, ⟨ed⟩ and ⟨'d⟩ were used to spell /ɪd/ and /d/ (or /t/) respectively.
- In today's English, ⟨èd⟩ and ⟨ed⟩ are used instead.
- "His work was soon in rehearsal
  Because he always usèd Purcell" (Flanders and Swann).

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Morphophonology (1): the phonology of flexional morphology

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Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …

Morphophonology (2): the phonology of derivational morphology (1)

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Syllables & Rhythm (2):

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Morphophonology (2): the phonology of derivational morphology (1)

Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever ...

Here are two of the most important ways in which words in English can be 'derived' from simpler words via the use of affixes:

- The Anglo-Saxon way:
  fear $\longrightarrow$ ˈ**fear**less $\longrightarrow$ ˈ**fear**lessness

- The French-Latin-Greek way:
  ˈ**gram**mar $\longrightarrow$ gramˈ**mat**ical $\longrightarrow$ grammatiˈ**cal**ity

It is even possible to mix the two strategies:

- A mixture:
  ˈ**gram**mar $\longrightarrow$ gramˈ**mat**ical $\longrightarrow$ gramˈ**mat**icalness

Note what happens to the position of the stress!

Morphophonology (2): the phonology of derivational morphology (2)

Here is another way in which one word can be 'derived' from another in English – this time by a change in the stress pattern alone, without any change to the structure of the word as a sequence of morphemes:

- in'**sult** (verb) ⟶ '**in**sult (noun)
- con'**vert** (verb) ⟶ '**con**vert (noun)

    and even

- in'**vite** (verb) ⟶ '**in**vite (noun)

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Morphophonology (2): the phonology of derivational morphology (3)

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Note:

(adjective)   (verb)

⟨separate⟩   ⟨separate⟩

/ˈsepərət/   /ˈsepəreɪt/

(adjective)
  or
 (noun)   (verb)

⟨degenerate⟩   ⟨degenerate⟩

/diˈdʒenərət/   /diˈdʒenəreɪt/

Word Stress Patterns from Sauer's *Drillbook* (1)

Monday ballet famous
ˈmʌndeɪ ˈbæleɪ ˈfeɪməs

cigar hotel prefer
sɪˈɡɑː həʊˈtel prɪˈfɜː

violin Chinese canteen
vaɪəˈlɪn tʃaɪˈniːz kænˈtiːn

energy Catholic communist Arabic
ˈenədʒɪ ˈkæθəlɪk ˈkɒmjʊnɪst ˈærəbɪk

suspicious strategic Arabian
səˈspɪʃəs strəˈtiːdʒɪk əˈreɪbjən

cigarette engineer refugee
ˌsɪɡəˈret ˌendʒɪˈnɪə ˌrefjʊˈdʒiː

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Word Stress Patterns from Sauer's *Drillbook* (2)

admirable comfortably personally
ˈædmərəbl ˈkʌmfətəblɪ ˈpɜːsənəlɪ

philosophy ridiculous catastrophe
fɪˈlɒsəfɪ rɪˈdɪkjʊləs kəˈtæstrəfɪ

scientific disproportion politician
ˌsaɪənˈtɪfɪk ˌdɪsprəˈpɔːʃn ˌpɒlɪˈtɪʃn

Protestantism criticizable
ˈprɒtəstəntɪzm ˈkrɪtɪsaɪzəbl

Catholicism considerable particularly
kəˈθɒlɪsɪzm kənˈsɪdərəbl pəˈtɪkjʊləlɪ

aristocracy mathematical possibility
ˌærɪˈstɒkrəsɪ ˌmæθəˈmætɪkl ˌpɒsəˈbɪlətɪ

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Word Stress Patterns from Sauer's *Drillbook* (3)

pasteurization characteristic
ˌpɑːstjʊəraɪˈzeɪʃn ˌkærəktəˈrɪstɪk

pronunciation consideration
prəˌnʌnsɪˈeɪʃn kənˌsɪdəˈreɪʃn

transformationally photographically
ˌtrænsfəˈmeɪʃənəlɪ ˌfəʊtəˈgræfɪkəlɪ

nationalization characterization
ˌnæʃənəlaɪˈzeɪʃn ˌkærəktəraɪˈzeɪʃn

inferiority bacteriologist
ɪnˌfɪərɪˈɒrɪti bækˌtɪərɪˈɒlədʒɪst

Note: Sauer transcribes a slightly old-fashioned form of RP in a slightly old-fashioned way.

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Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever …

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- See Eckert and Barry, pages 239 to 243 – scans of these pages are in this week's folder:
  http://www.spence.saar.de/courses/
  phoneticswithlistening/unit11_20241

Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever … (1)

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- Pay particular attention to those cases where there is a systematic difference between English and German!

Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever … (1)

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- Pay particular attention to those cases where there is a systematic difference between English and German!

- We can only skim the surface of lexical stress. Although it is important, especially from a contrastive point of view ("English is different from German!"), many of the examples given in Eckert and Barry on pages 197 to 212 are specific to one variety of British English and/or antiquated
  `http://www.spence.saar.de/phonetics/unit11_20241`

Further reading, additional exercises, homework, whatever … (2)

- We will examine some of these issues from a different perspective in Unit 13. If you want to take a peek in advance, check Halliday 1970 §5.3 pp44-47:
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  Halliday1970/The_Book/2192_001.pdf
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  Halliday1970/Halliday1970_45/ http://www.spence.saar.
  de/arcanum/phonetics/Halliday1970/Halliday1970_45/
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  Halliday1970/Halliday1970_46/
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  Halliday1970/Halliday1970_47-49/

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- There are more exercises in Sauer:
  §33 pp104-109
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  pronunciation/pronunciation_25-33.pdf
  http://www.spence.saar.de/arcanum/phonetics/
  pronunciation/pronunciation_25-33.mp3