

STRUCTURE of ENGLISH WORDS

Questions for discussion:

- 1. Morphological structure of words & basic notions of morphological analysis**
- 2. Derivational structure of words & basic notions of derivational analysis.**

WORD STRUCTURE: approaches

**morphemic/morphological
analysis**

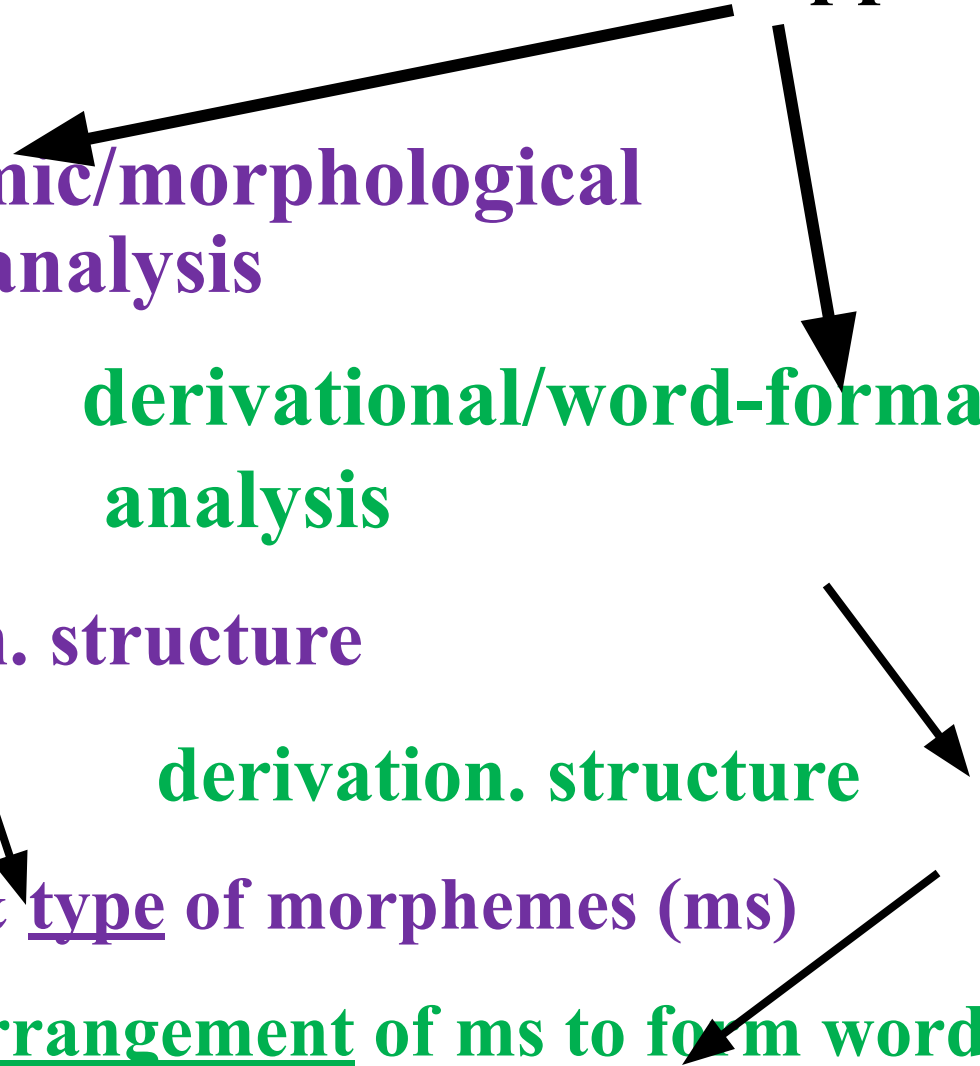
**derivational/word-formational
analysis**

morphem. structure

derivation. structure

number & type of morphemes (ms)

arrangement of ms to form words



MORPHEME – the smallest *bilateral* lg unit
possessing both *sound-form* & *mg*.

MS

lexical ≡

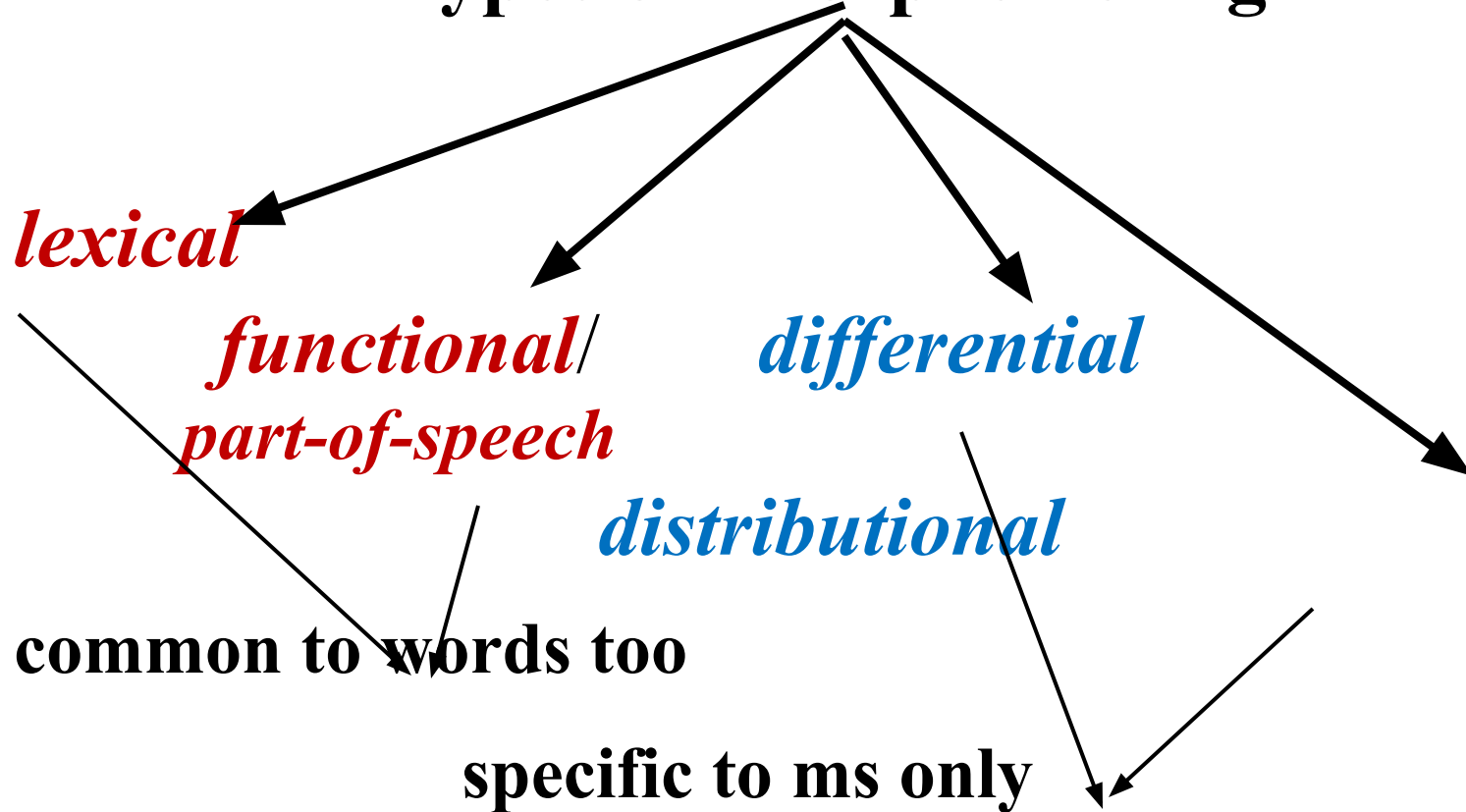
derivation./word-building

[do], [-ment], [un-]

grammatical/functional =
endings/inflections

[-s], [-ed], [-ing], [-er]

Types of Morpheme Mg



LEXICAL Mg of ms:

- transparent in root-m.;
- of generalizing character in affixes (esp. *endearing & diminutive sfxs: auntie, blankie; kitchenette; duckling, princeling*)

FUNCTIONAL Mg of ms:

- typical of affixes only: *-ment, -er*

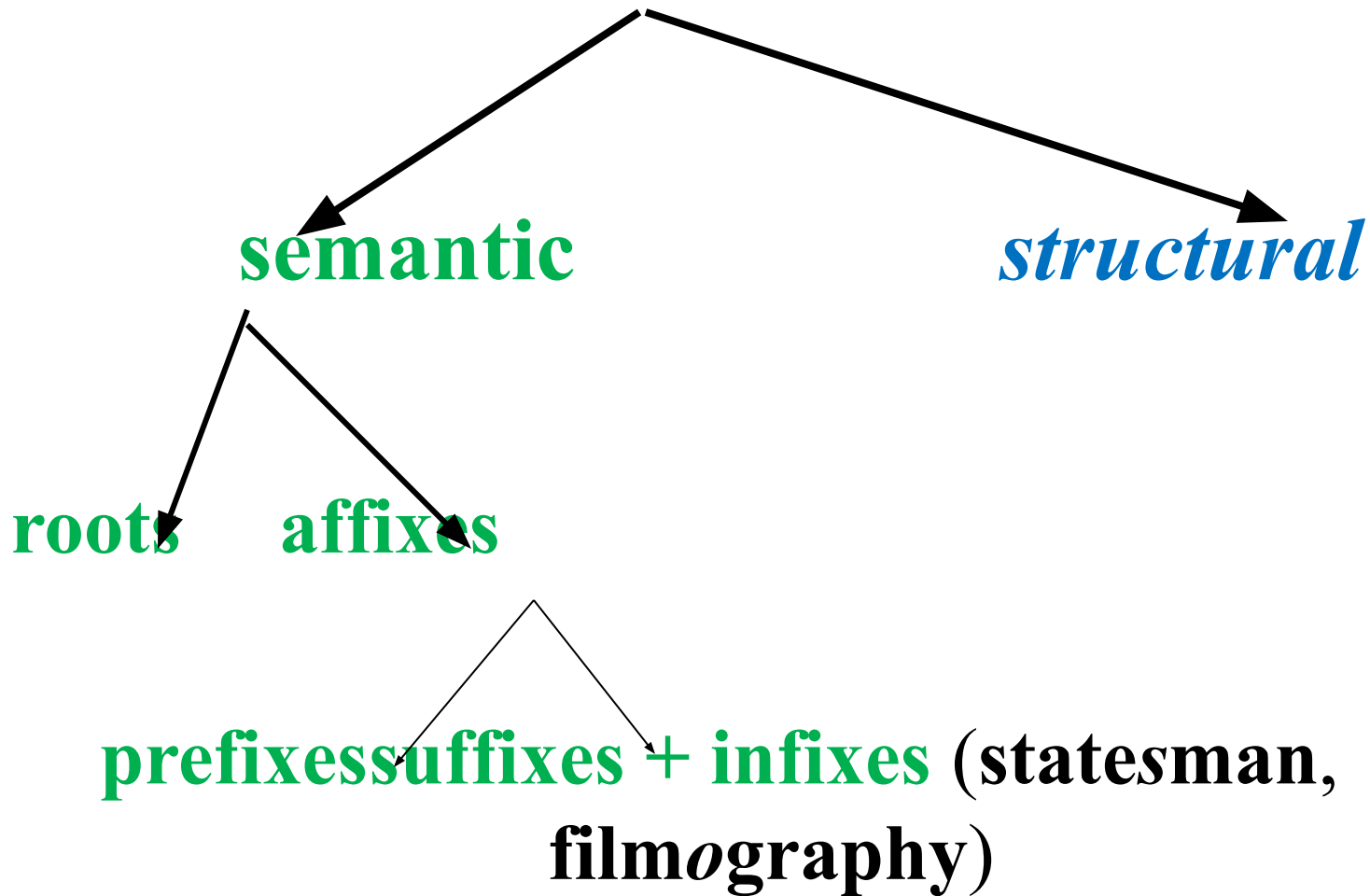
DIFFERENTIAL Mg of ms –
semantic component serving *to*
distinguish one word from all others
containing identical morphemes

- *netbook*, *notebook*

DISTRIBUTIONAL Mg of ms – the
mg of the *order & arrangement of*
morphemes making up a word

- driver -- *erdriv;
- billboard – board bill

Classification of ms



Classification of ms

structural

free

[run], [play]

bound

[-hood], [un-], [re-]

semi-free/semi-bound

[**well**] in *well-known*,

well-educated, well-bred, well-equipped, well-read

[**proof**] *fire/water/sun/climate/weather/fool-proof*

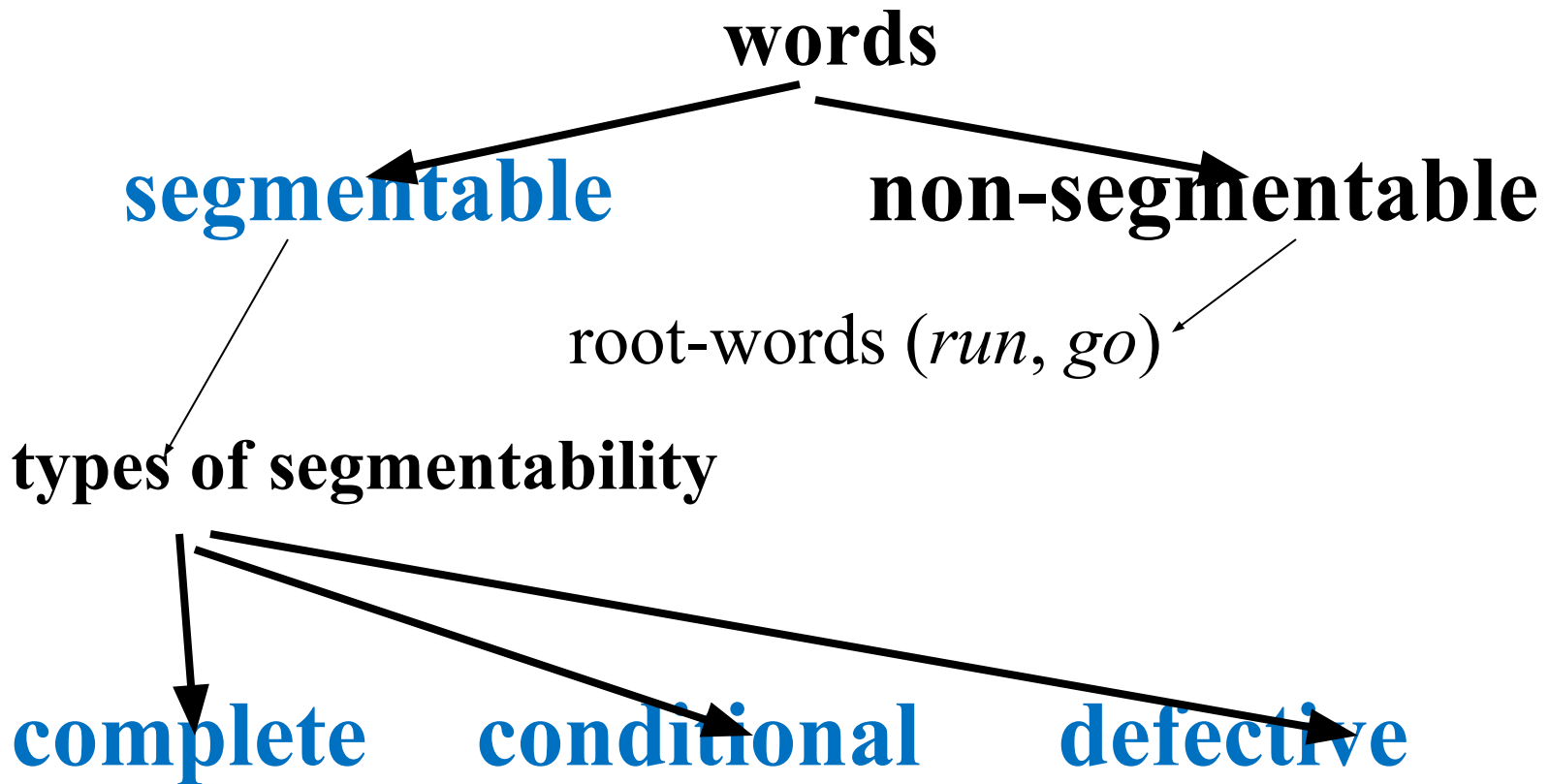
Bound roots of Greek/Latin origin:

- *hyper*(inflation), *tele/pathy*, *mega*(hit)



combining forms/neoclassical compounds

Types of morph. segmentability

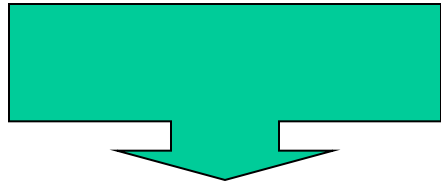


COMPLETE type of segmentability:

- *transparent* morph. structure;
- constituent ms *recur* with the same mg *in other words*.

CONDITIONAL type of segmentability:

- segmentation is possible for *structural* reasons but is doubtful for *semantic* reasons



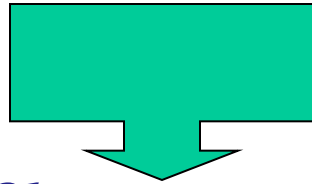
retain, contain, detain;

receive, deceive, conceive

pseudo-morphemes/quasi-morphemes

DEFECTIVE type of segmentability:

- constituent ms seldom/*never recur in other words*

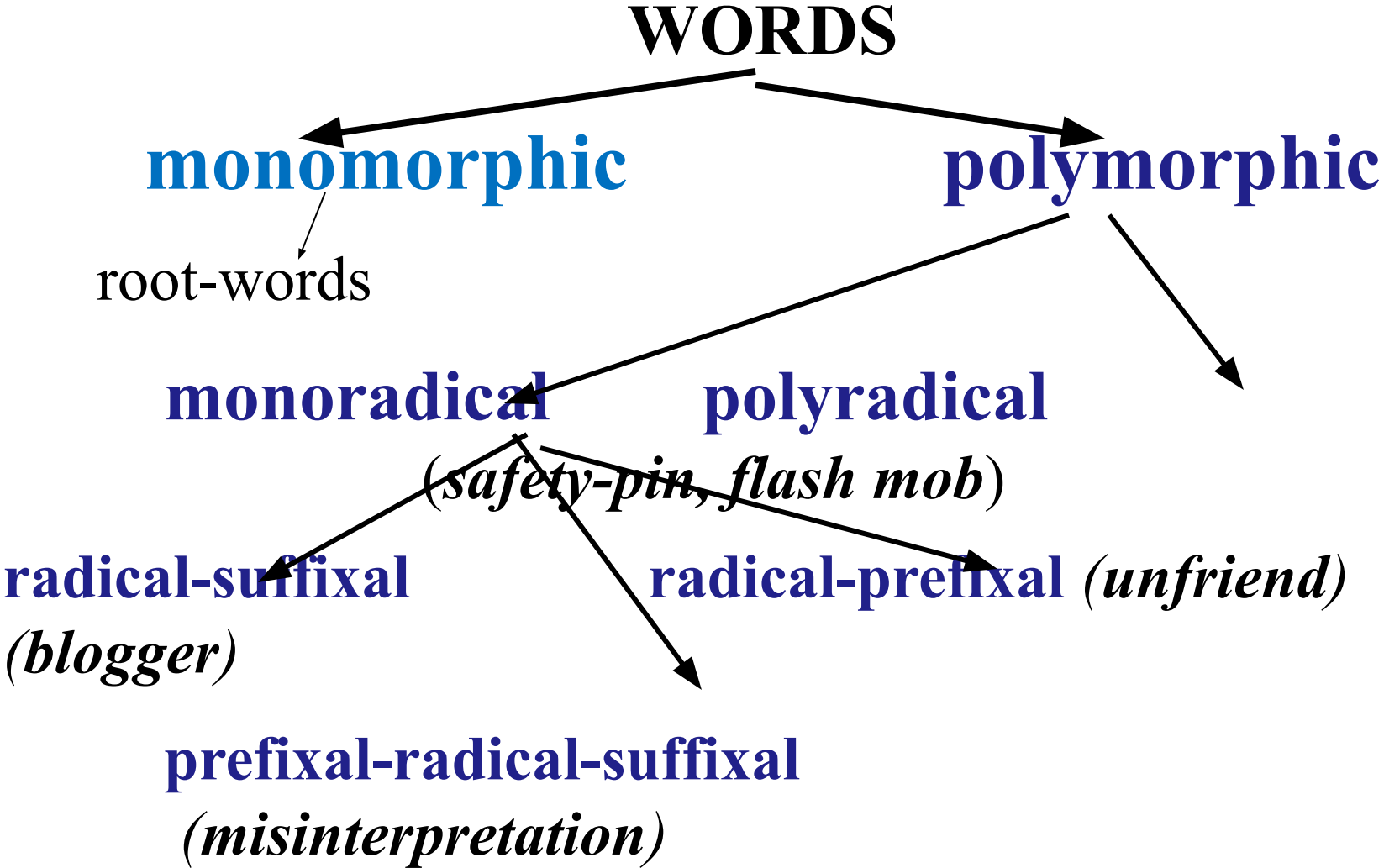


hamlet (*leaflet, crosslet, ringlet*);

cranberry (*gooseberry, strawberry*)

unique morphemes

Morphemic types of words



PRINCIPLES of MORPHEMIC ANALYSIS

Morph./morpholog. analysis -- the division of a word into its ultimate constituents, i.e. into *constituent ms.*

Procedure of morphemic analysis: defining

- 1) if the word is segmentable/non-segmentable;**
- 2) type of segmentability (complete, conditional, defective);**
- 3) number of ms;**
- 4) semantic classification of ms;**
- 5) structural classification of ms;**
- 6) type of word according to its morph. structure**

DERIV. STRUCTURE OF WORDS

- **DERIV. ANALYSIS** studies the **sequence of ms** & their **successive joining** in a word
- **binary principle** of deriv. analysis: we break the word into *2 parts only*
- **derivative** = a word formed from a simpler lexical unit, that motivates it structurally & semantically

Basic notions of deriv. analysis:

- 1) deriv. base (types)**
- 2) deriv. affix(es)**
- 3) deriv. pattern**
- 4) type of word according to its deriv. structure**
- 5) degree of derivation**

DERIV. BASE (DB) – a part of a word to which a rule of word-formation is applied (*a part of a word from which the given word is built*)

Structurally DBs are:

1) *stems* of various structure:



- *simple* (girlish)
- *derived* (girlishness)
- *compound* (ex-girlfriend)

2) *word-form* (unknown, smilingly)

3) *word-group* (blue-eyed, short-lived, do-gooder)

Deriv. affixes (DAs) form derivatives

Deriv. pattern – a *meaningful arrangement of DB & DA: a model illustrating the way of creating a word*

- *spoiler*: V + -er → N or V + sfx → N
- *blissfully*: Adj + -ly → Adv or (N + -ful) + -ly → Adv

DERIV. TYPES of words

simple/simplexes/non-derived

derived words/complexes

derivatives

compound words

1) *affix. derivatives*

2) *conversion derivatives*

1) *compound proper*

2) *deriv. compound*

insider, to friend, straightjacket,
suicide-bomber, honeymooner

DEGREE of derivation – the number
of deriv. processes that took place in a
word

✓ *unpredictable:*

un- + (V + -able) → Adj

a prefixational derivative of the 2nd degree

✓ *aircraft-carrier:*

$(\mathbf{n} + \mathbf{n}) + (\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{-er}) \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$

a compound proper of the 3d degree

✓ *denationalization*:

{**de-** + [(**n** + **-al**) + **-ize**]} + **-tion** → **N**

a suffixational derivative of the 4th degree