

Morphology III

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Week 6

05.02.22

LING 20001: Introduction to Linguistics

Inflection vs. derivation

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- Now, let us return to **derivation**.
- Unlike inflection, derivational morphemes are responsible for forming new words.
- Usually, derived words have a different meaning or function:

priority	+	-ize	→	'make something into a priority'
un-	+	true	→	'not true'
expect	+	-ation	→	'something that is expected'
mother	+	-hood	→	'the property of being a mother'
power	+	-ful	→	'having power'
kind	+	-ness	→	'the property of being kind'

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Verb	V	sing, dance, persuade
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- We can identify the **category** of a word by its function in the sentence.
- Categories are also important for the internal structure of a word.

Categories

- Some affixes do not change the category of a word, e.g. *dis-*

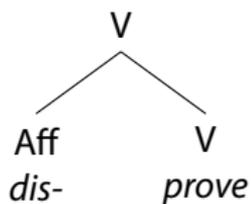
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Aff	V
<i>dis-</i>	<i>prove</i>

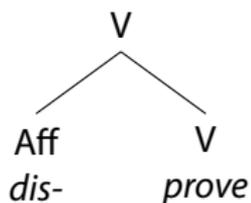
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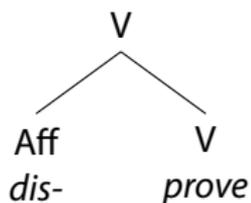


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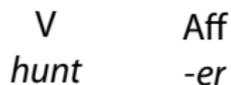
V	Aff
<i>hunt</i>	<i>-er</i>

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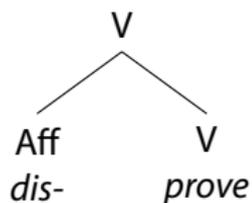


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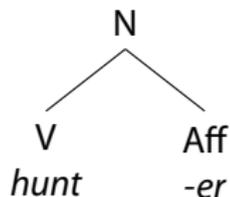


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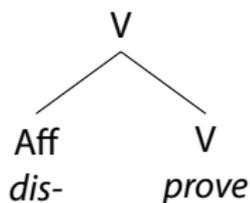


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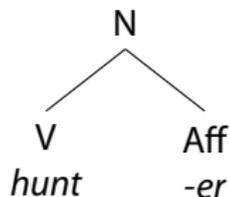


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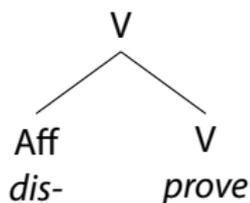


- Other affixes do change the category of a word (e.g. $V \rightarrow N$; **nominalization**)

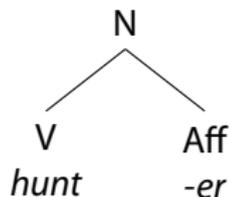


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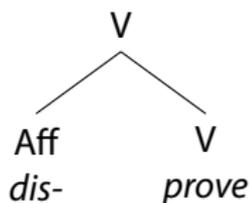
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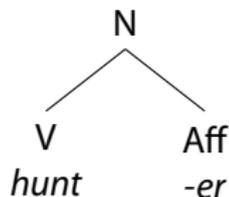
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- Other affixes do change the category of a word (e.g. $V \rightarrow N$; **nominalization**)



- We can represent the internal structure of a word with a **tree structure**
- This tree represents a **derivation**: the word *hunt* of category V combines with *-er* to form a new word of category N.

Some English affixes

	N	→	N
<i>ex-</i>	wife	→	ex-wife
	boyfriend	→	ex-boyfriend
<i>-ess</i>	lion	→	lion-ess
	waiter	→	waitr-ess
<i>-hood</i>	mother	→	mother-hood
	child	→	child-hood
<i>-ian</i>	logic	→	logic-ian
	history	→	histor-ian
	V	→	V
<i>re-</i>	enter	→	re-enter
	paint	→	re-paint
<i>un-</i>	tie	→	un-tie
	tangle	→	un-tangle
<i>dis-</i>	believe	→	dis-believe
	infect	→	dis-infect

How do we know what an affix attaches to?

General rule

Inner affixes attach before outer affixes.

In a word B-A-C, where B is the **root** and -A and -C are **affixes**,
-A attaches **before** -C.

[[B -A] -C]

Multiple suffixes

What is the structure of *happiness* and *joyfulness*?

A
happy

Aff
-ness

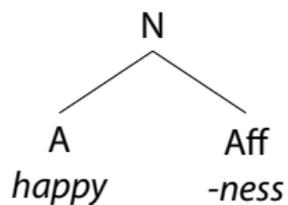
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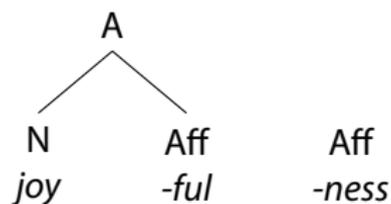
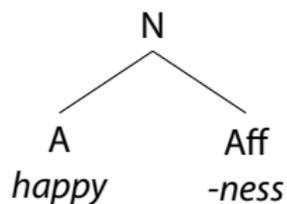
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- *-ness* is an affix that turns an adjective into a noun (A → N).

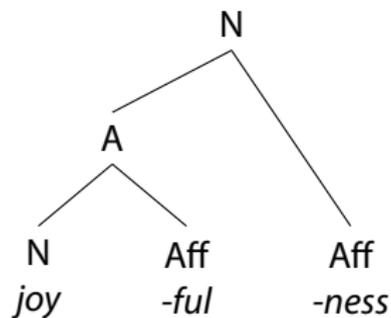
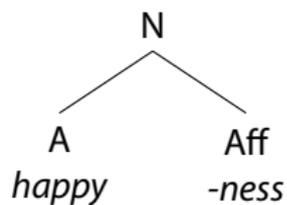
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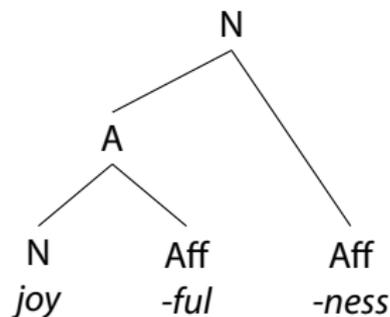
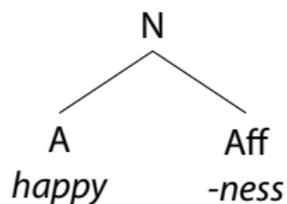
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- *-ness* is an affix that turns an adjective into a noun (A → N).
- *-ful* is an affix that derives a new adjective from a noun (N → A).

Multiple suffixes

This also works for more complex words, e.g. *institutionalization*:

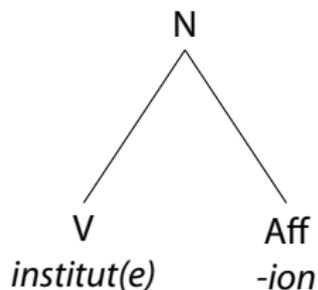
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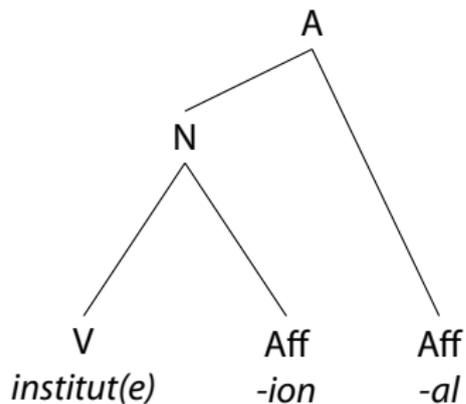
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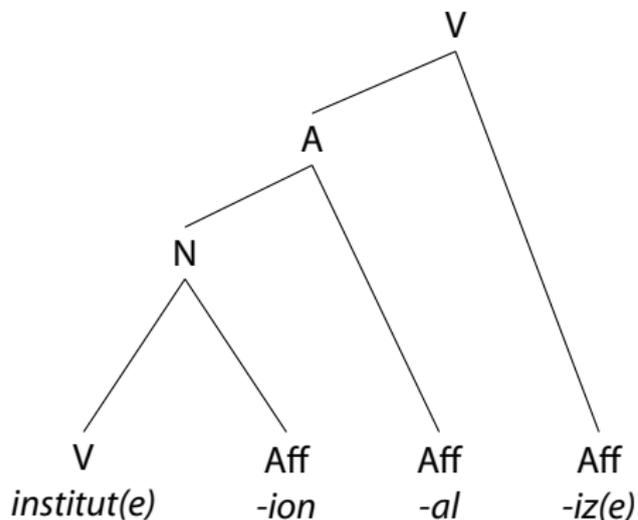
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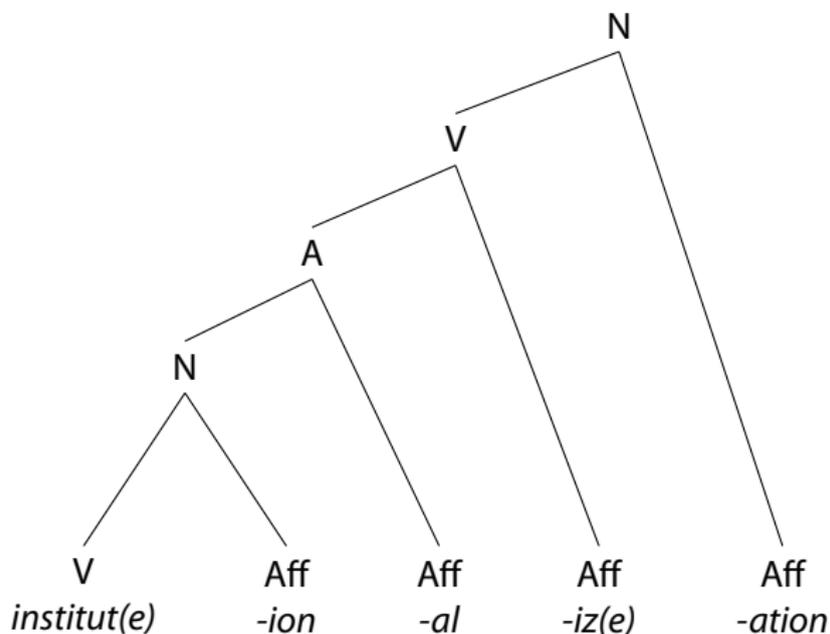
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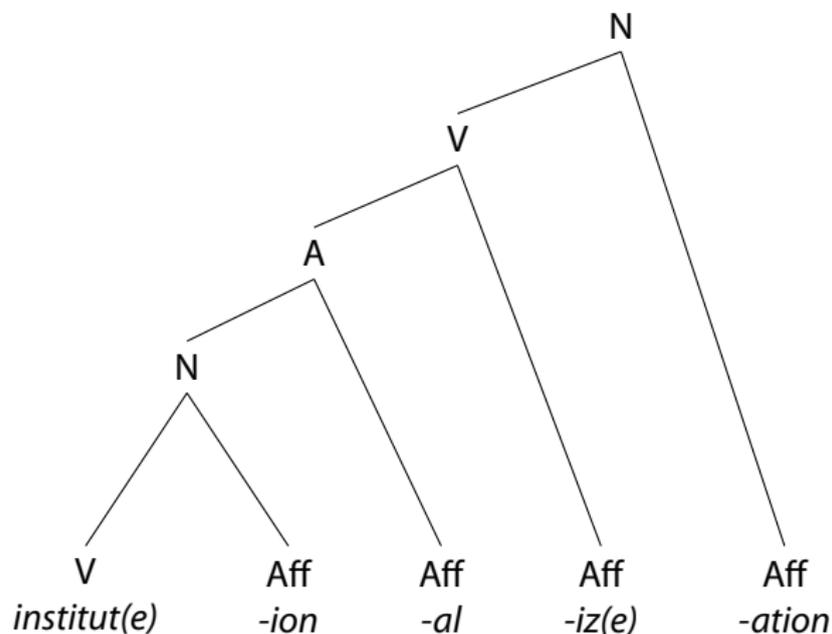
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Each step contains an independently well-formed word.

How do we know what an affix attaches to?

Prefixes and suffixes

In a word A-B-C where B is a **root** and A and C are **affixes** either:

① A-B or B-C is not an independent word (then we choose the other one),

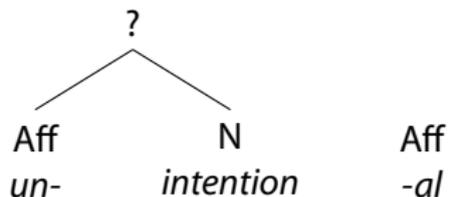
[[A- B] -C] or [A- [B -C]]

② we know independently that either A or C does not attach to the category of B (in which case, we choose the other one)

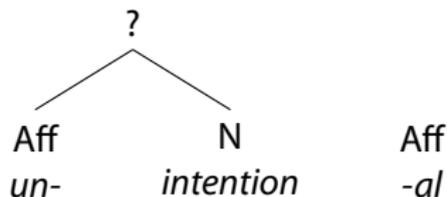
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Aff	N	Aff
<i>un-</i>	<i>intention</i>	<i>-al</i>

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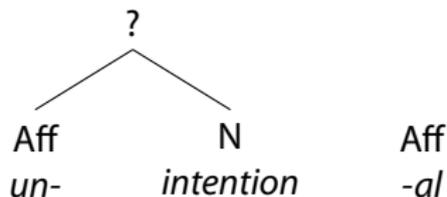


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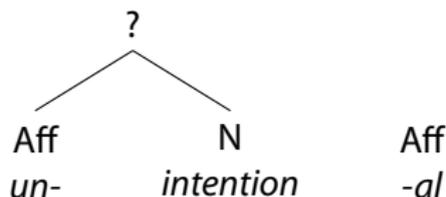
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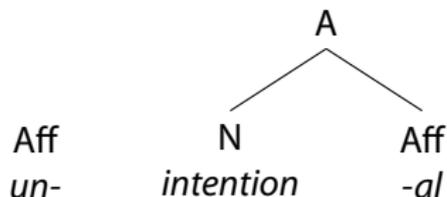
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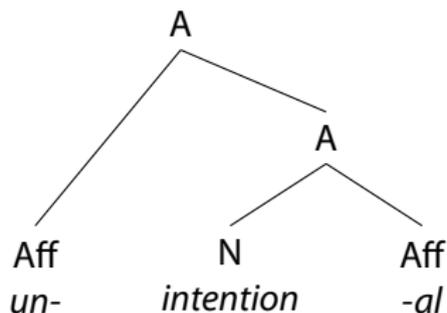
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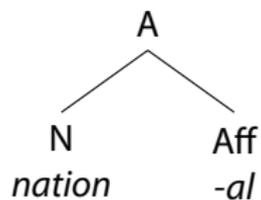
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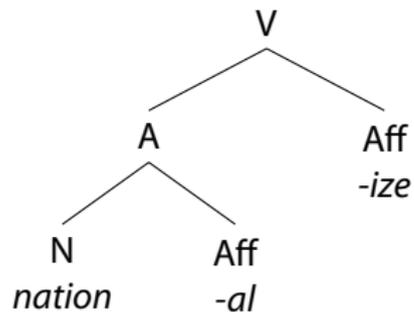
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N
nation

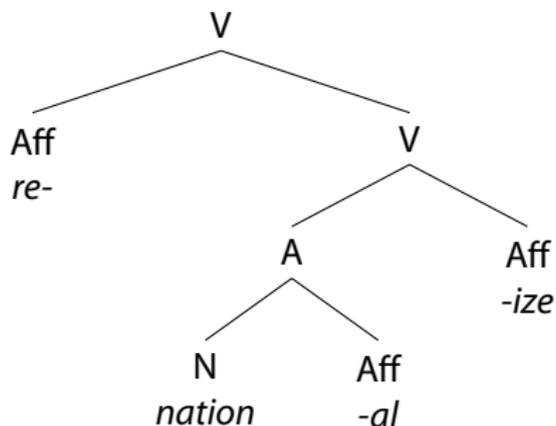
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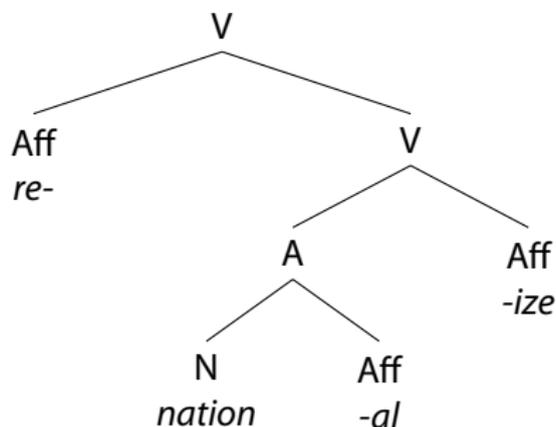
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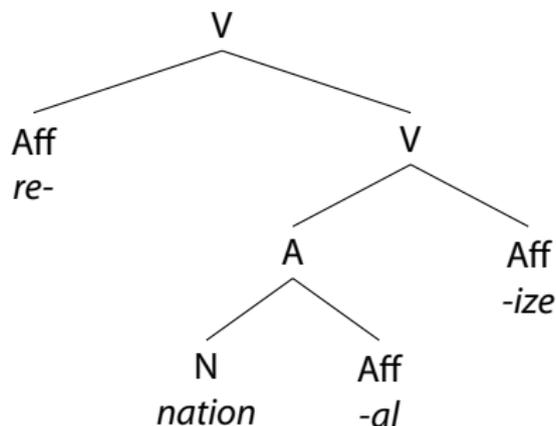


What is the right structure for *renationalize*?



Since **re-nation* and **re-nation-al* are not words, this is the only plausible structure for this word.

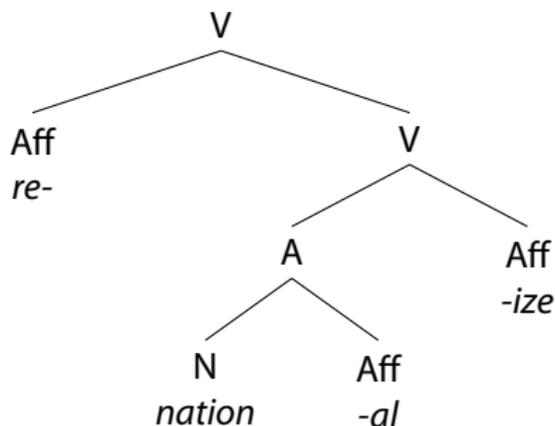
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What category of words does *re-* attach to in general?

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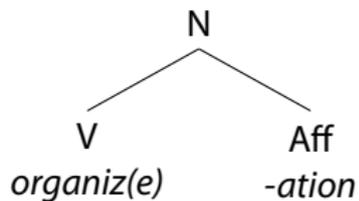
What category of words does *re-* attach to in general? **Verbs** (*re-apply* vs. **re-expensive* or **re-champion*)

What is the right structure for *reorganization*?

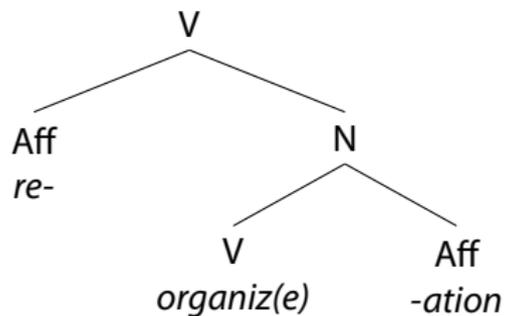
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V
organiz(e)

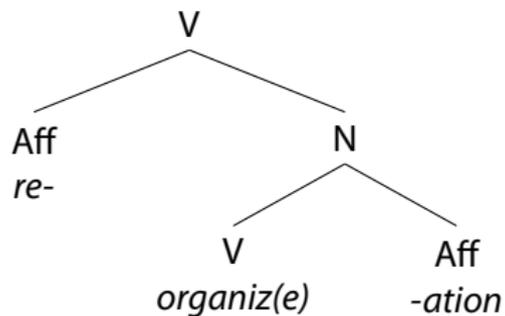
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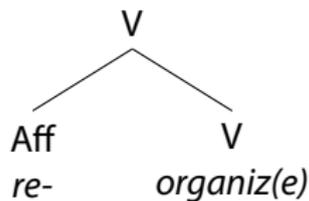
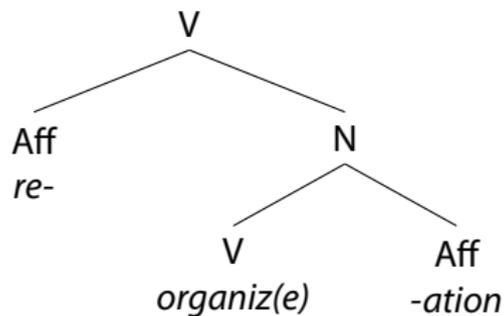
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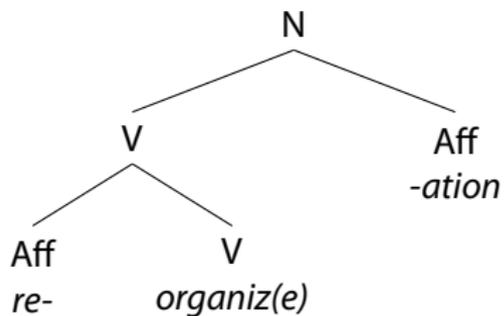
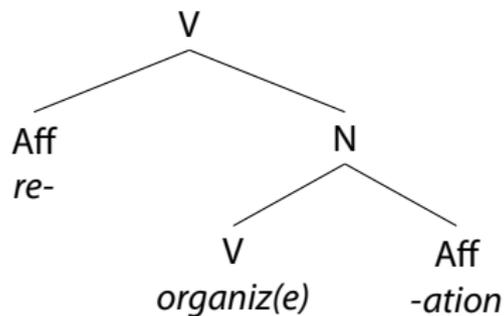
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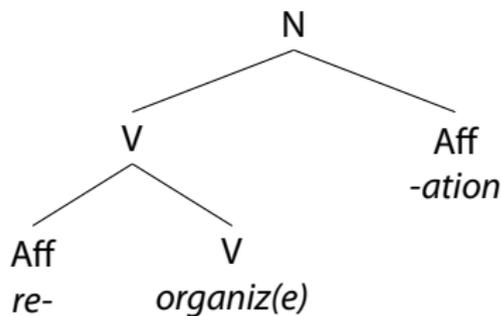
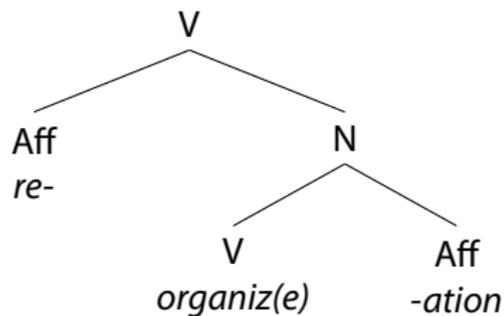
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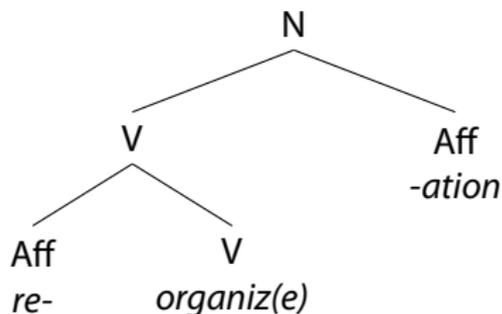
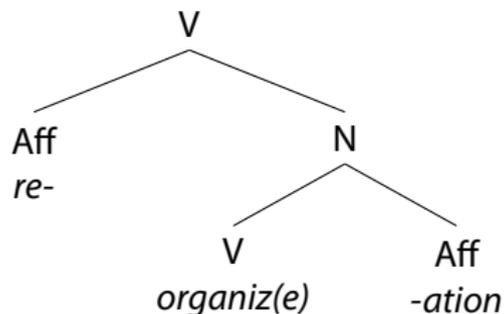


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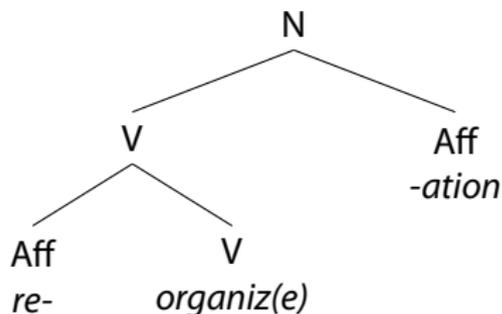
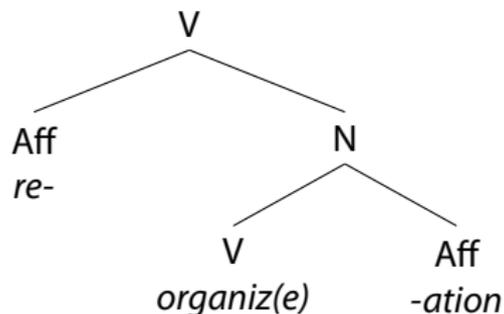
Which one is correct?

What is the right structure for *reorganization*?



Which one is correct? Both *organiz-ation* and *re-organize* are possible words!

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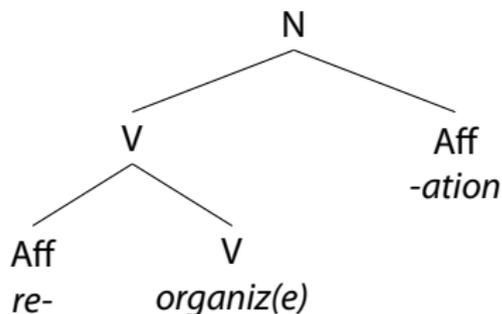
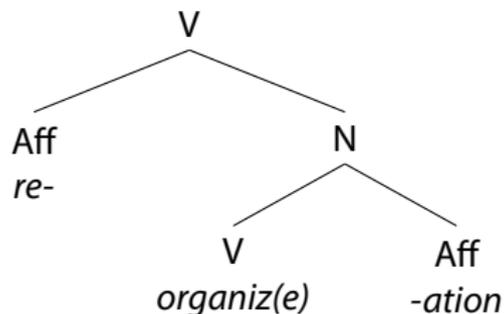


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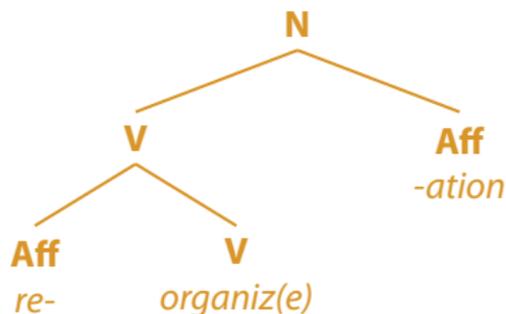
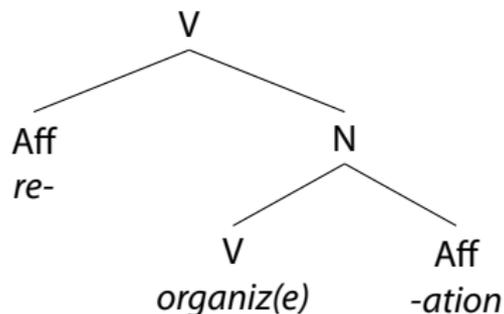


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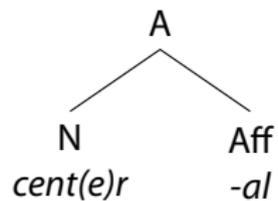
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N
cent(e)r

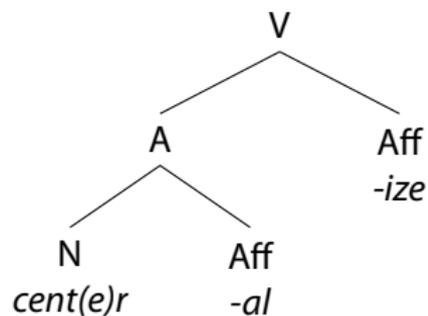
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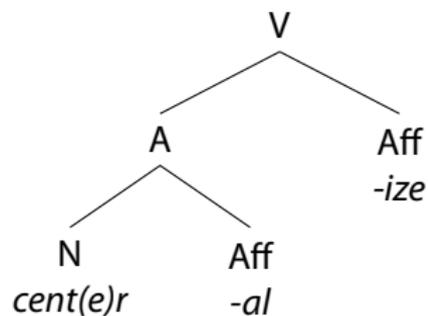
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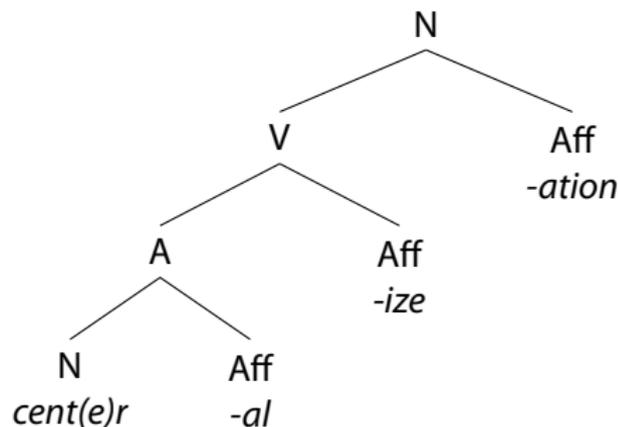
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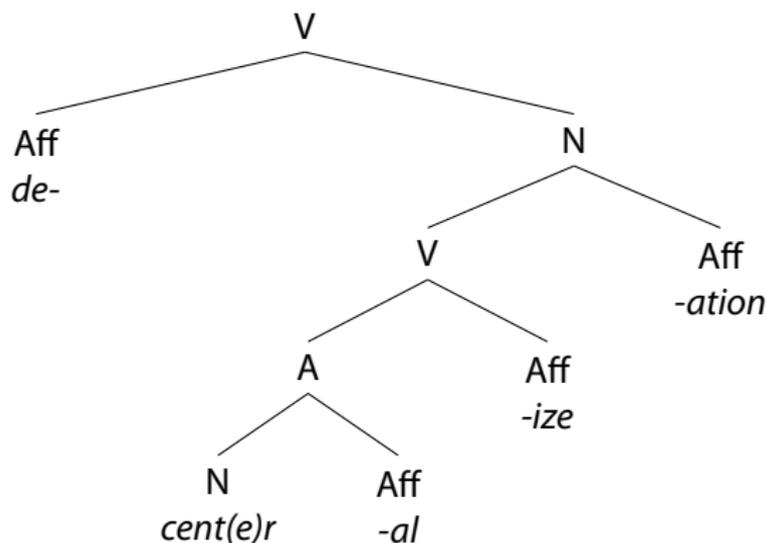
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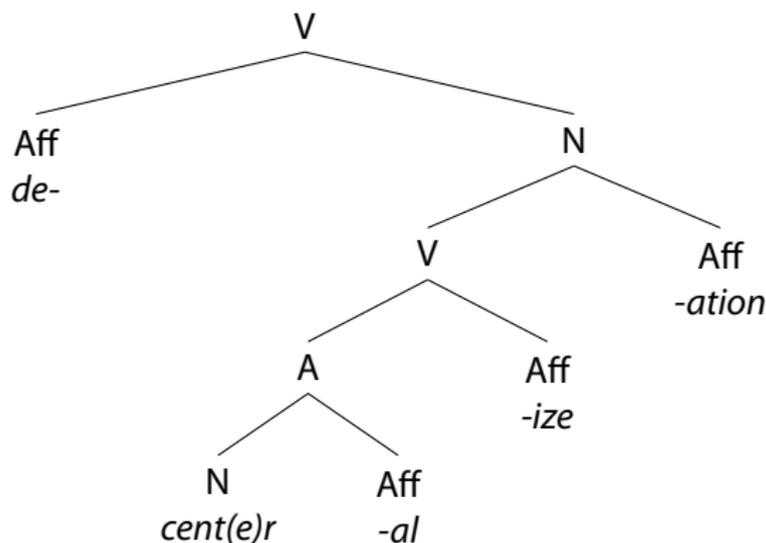
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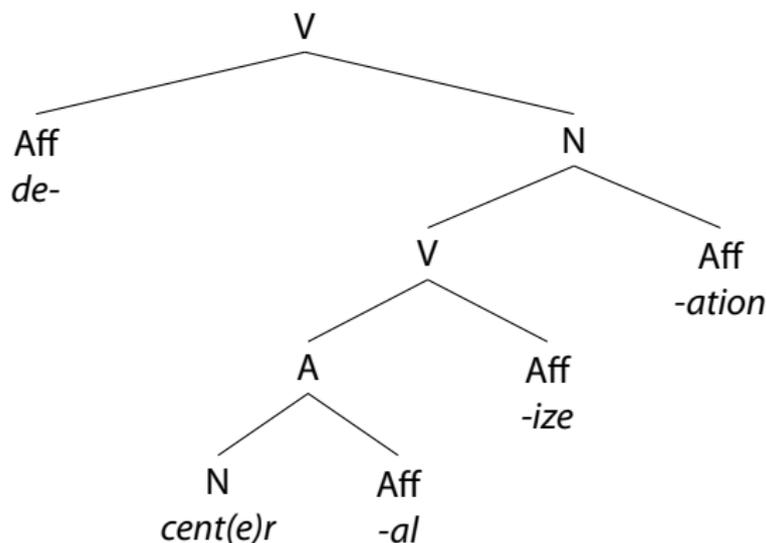
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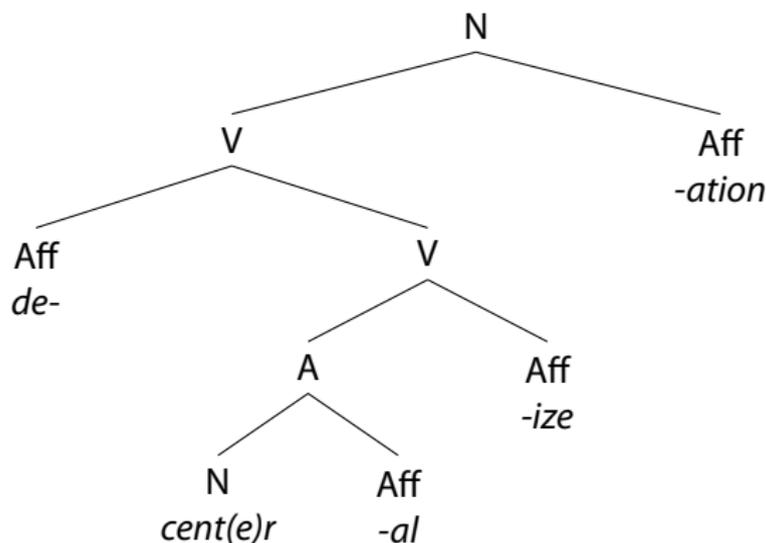
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Un- and *-able*

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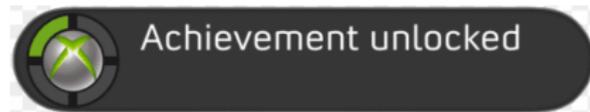
Un- and -able

What is the structure of *un-lock-able*?

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'not able to be locked'



'able to be unlocked'

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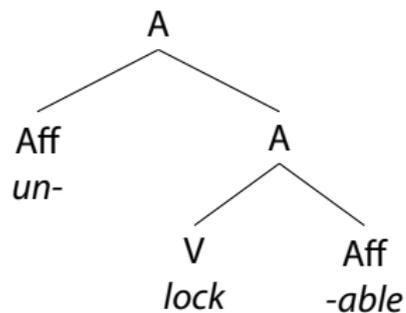
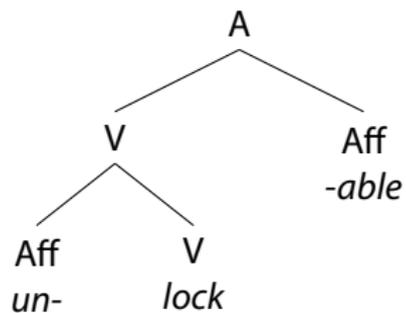
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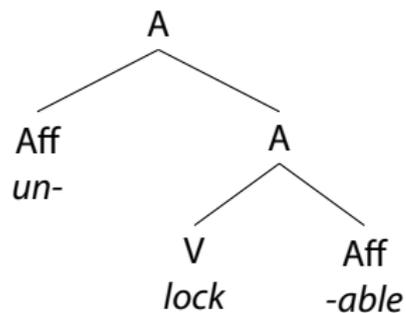
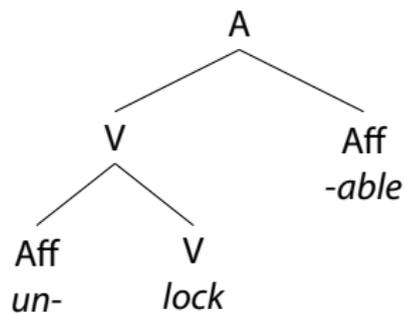
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Un- and -able

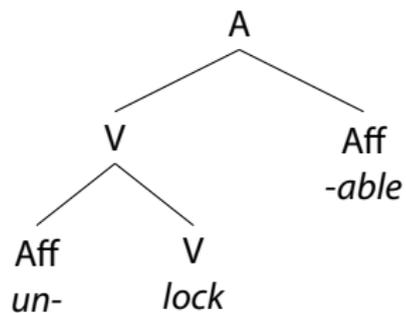


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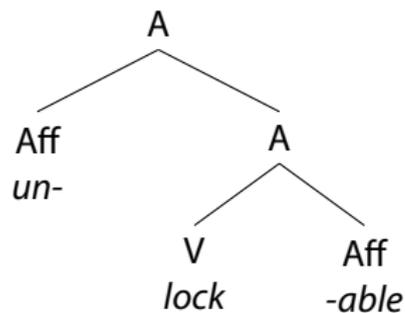


'able to be unlocked'

Un- and -able



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high	+	school	→	high school
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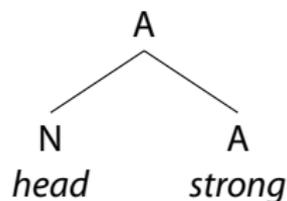
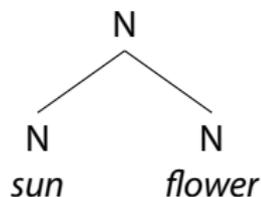
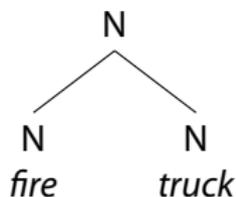
- The combination of two roots (\approx free morphemes) is called a **compound**.

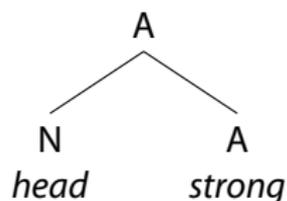
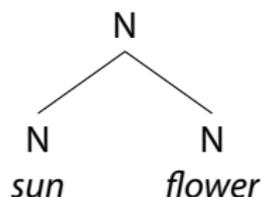
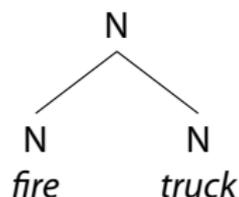
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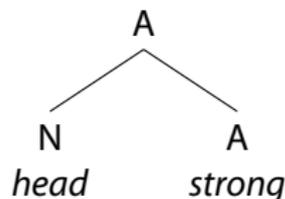
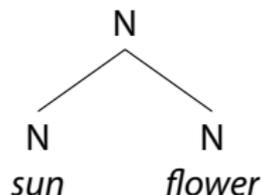
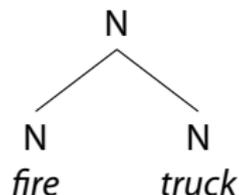
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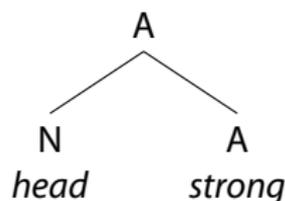
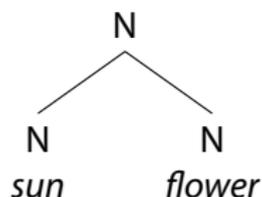
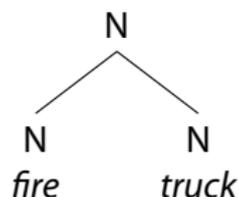
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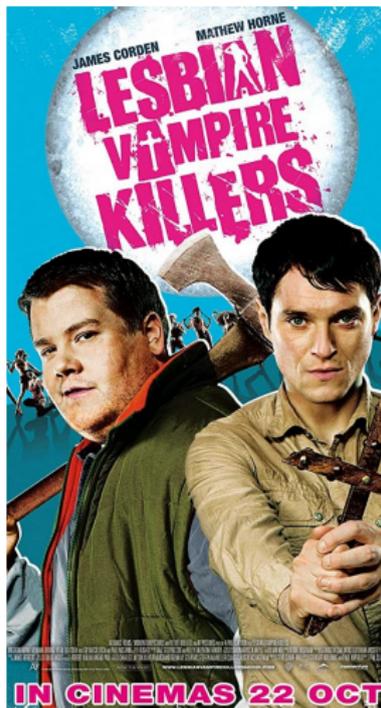


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- Ambiguity between compounds and non-compounds based on stress:

<i>tóy factory</i>	'factory that makes toys'	<i>toy fáctory</i>	'a factory that is a toy'
<i>bláck bird</i>	'a type of bird'	<i>black bírd</i>	'a bird that is black'
<i>whíte house</i>	'where the president lives'	<i>white hóuse</i>	'a house that is white'

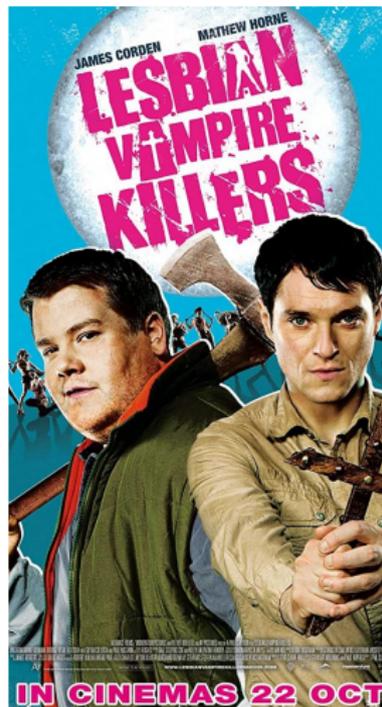
Ambiguity

Look at the title of this (terrible) 2009 movie:



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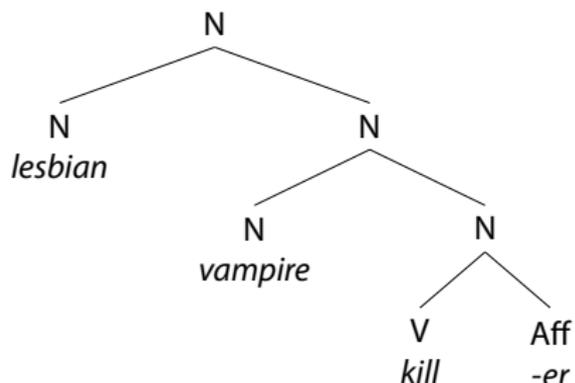
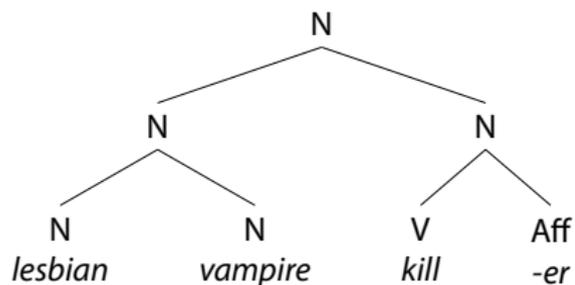
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What do you think it is about?

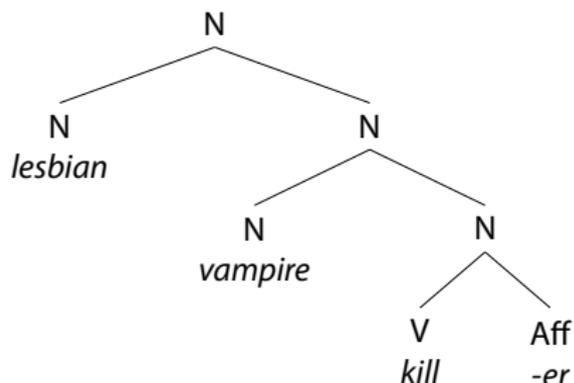
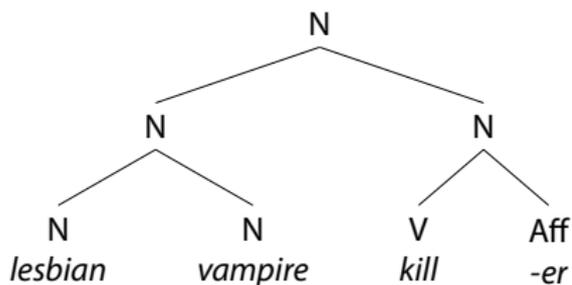
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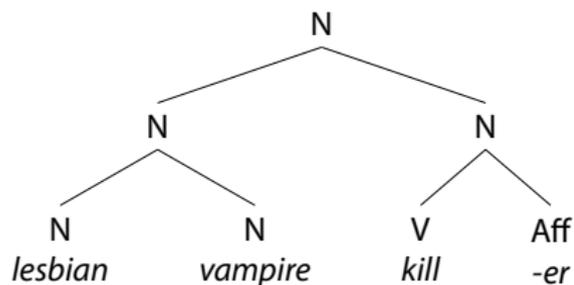
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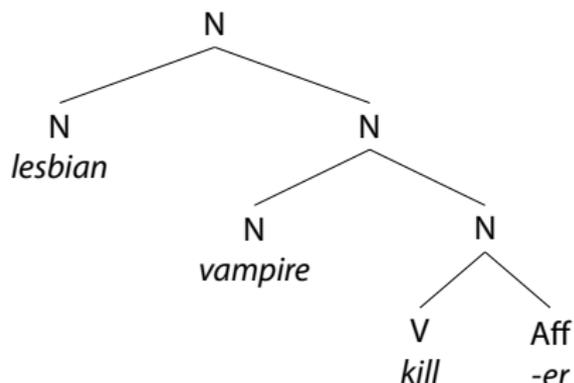
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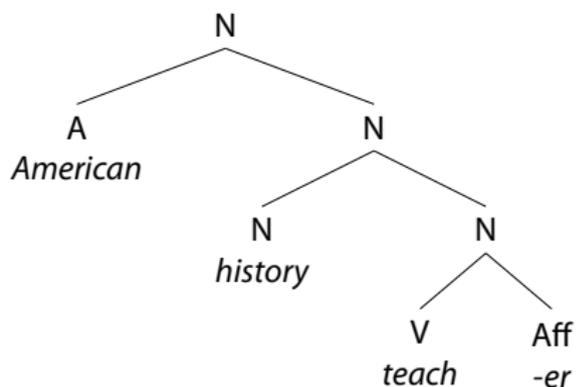
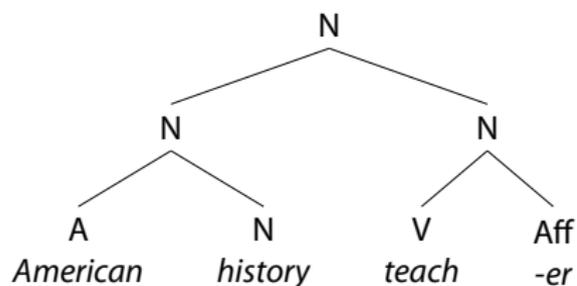
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'a vampire killer who is a lesbian'

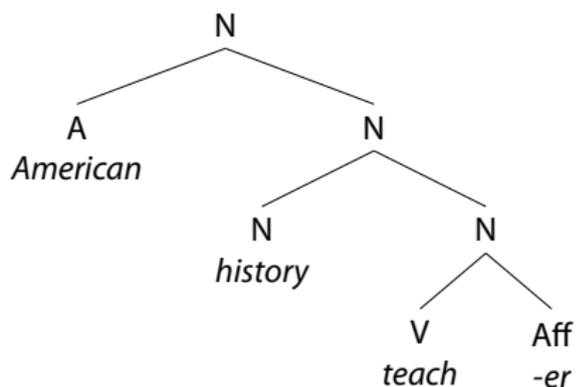
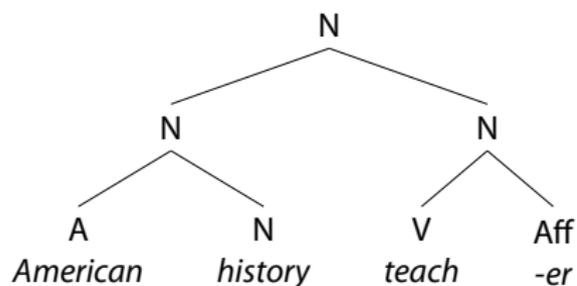
More ambiguity

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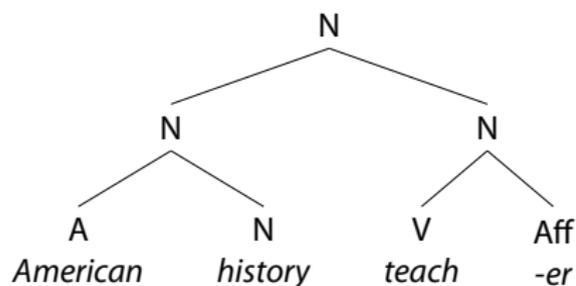
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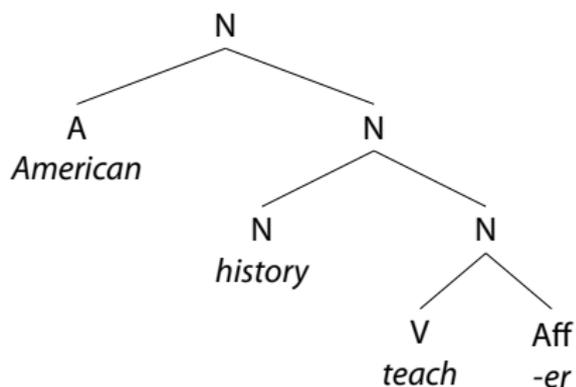
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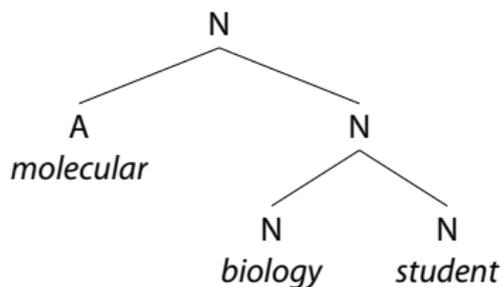
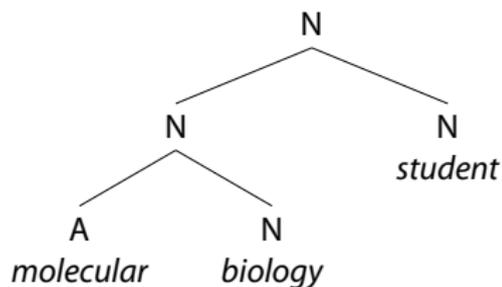
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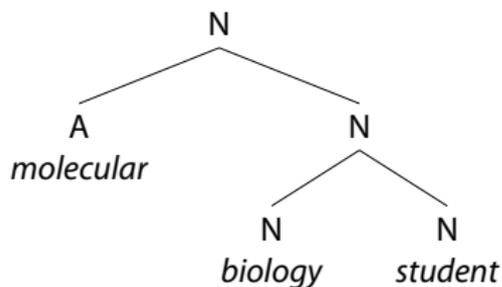
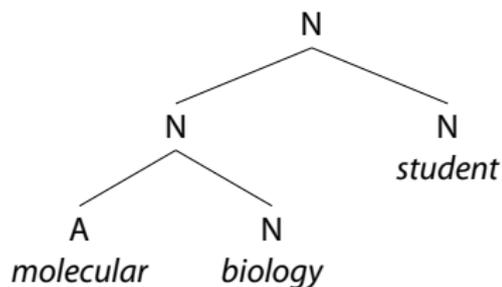
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How it is not always the case that compounds are ambiguous:



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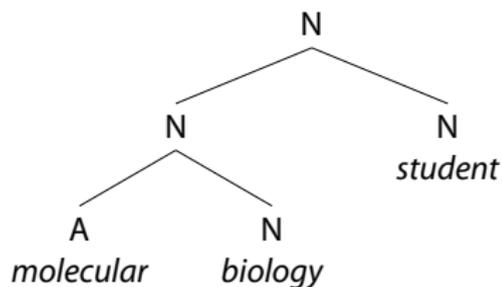
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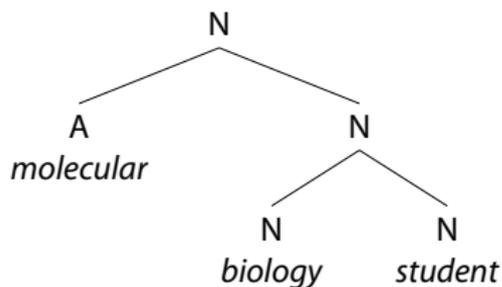
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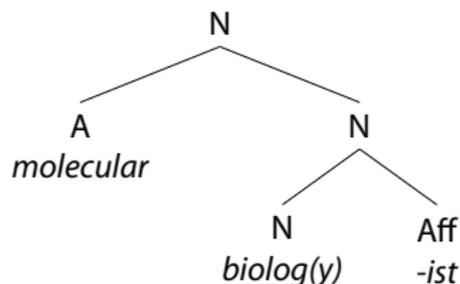
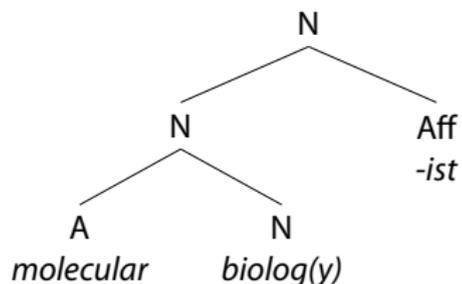
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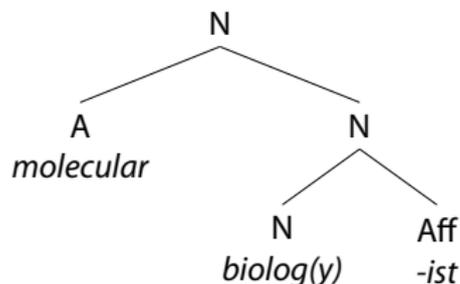
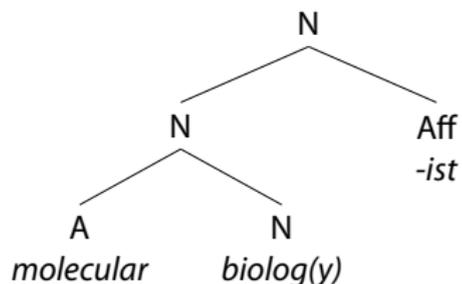
Bracketing paradoxes

What about this similar example, is it problematic?



Bracketing paradoxes

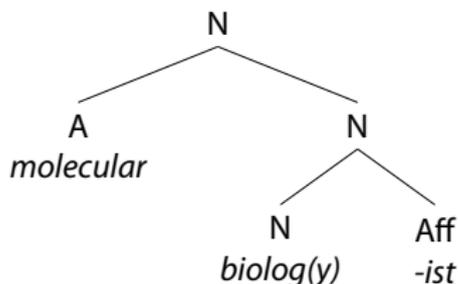
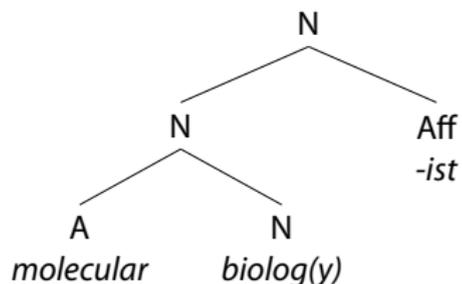
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The left tree gets the meaning right, but the right tree gets the affixation correct (molecular+biologist).

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Think about a word like *un-happi-er* – does it pose a similar problem?