

# *Essentials of Morphology*

The of the discussion

1. Morphological structure of the word
2. Categorical structure of the word
3. Parts of speech

# 1. Morphological structure of the word

***The morph*** is a minimal sequence of allophones which possess certain meaning and regularly occurs in various environments:

clear

clearly

clearness

cleared

clears

unclear



{clear} – a free morph

# Morph

```
graph TD; Morph --> free; Morph --> bound; bound --- list["[li]  
[nis]  
[id]  
[ʌn]"]; list --- label["bound morphs  
(grammatical meaning)"]
```

free

bound

[li]

[nis]

[id]

[ʌn]

bound morphs

(grammatical meaning)

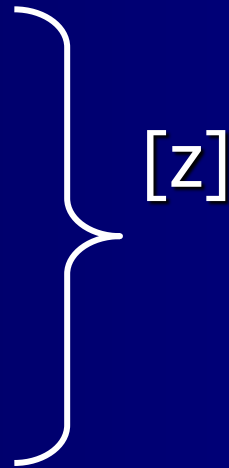
***The morpheme*** is a group of one and more morphs united by the same meaning and complementary distribution.

books [s]

tables [z]

boxes [iz]

Sheep  $\emptyset$



[s]

[z]

[iz]

$\emptyset$



a zero

allomorph

morph

# Morpheme

***free***

independent  
alone as a word  
{clear}

***bound***

an essential  
part of a word  
(affixes) *unlucky*  
/ən/+/lek/+/i/

inflectional  
{s} lives

derivational  
{ful} joyful

a free morpheme + an inflectional morpheme



***a word-form***

the complex of word-forms  
with different  
inflectional morphemes



***a lexeme***

typical inflectional  
morpheme with  
different stems



***a form-class***

# Categorial structure of the word

*the word*

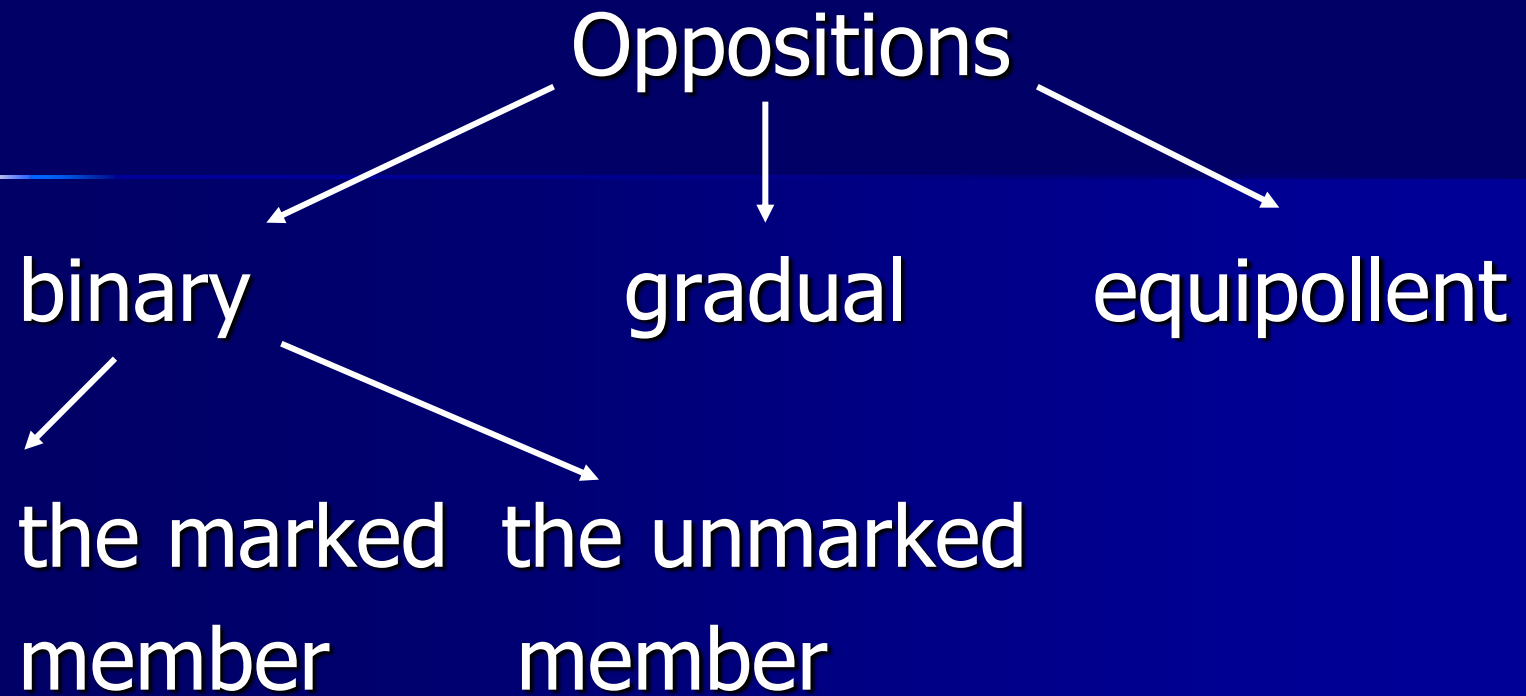
the grammatical  
form

the grammatical  
meaning

boy – boys

lady – ladies

The opposition of the grammatical form and the grammatical meaning of these two groups is *the grammatical category*.





# Categorial oppositions

synthetical

inner  
inflexion

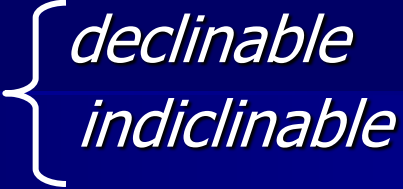

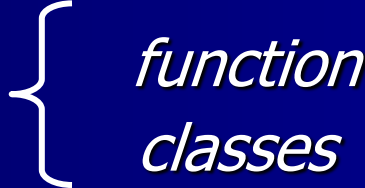
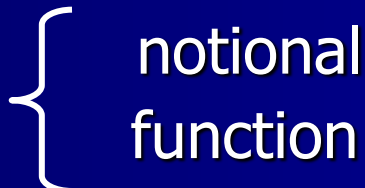
suppletivity

analytical

auxiliary + basic  
element element

# Parts of speech

The approaches to the problem:

1. **Classical** 
  - declinable*
  - indiclinable*
2. **Functional** 
  - nominative*
  - particles*
3. **Distributional** 
  - function*
  - classes*
4. **Complex** 
  - notional
  - function

***Notional words:*** nouns, pronouns, numerals, verbs, adjectives, adverbs.

***Function or grammatical words:*** articles, particles, prepositions, conjunctions, modal verbs.

***NB:*** one lexeme belongs to one part of speech.

*She wore a **yellow** dress.*

*Do not use this soap – it will **yellow** your linen.*

*The **yellow** of an egg is called the yolk.*

# The criteria of classification of words

**Meaning**

common to  
all words of  
the class;

**Form**

stem-building  
suffixes and  
grammatical  
categories;

**Function**

combin-  
ability  
and  
functions  
in the sentence