

Lecture No. 6 (Second Year)

Chapter Eleven: Complex Words (pages-82-85)

In the previous lectures, we have been talking about assigning stress to **simple words** of one, two, or three syllables. To refresh your minds, simple words are the words that **do not have any affixes** i.e. no morphemes are added to the words.

The word **"use"** for example is **simple**, while the words **"useful"** or **"useless"** are **complex** words. The first has **one** grammatical unit, while the other two has **two** grammatical units each.

Notes:

- The more affixes we have in the word, the more syllables we have.
- This topic is a good example of the overlap between morphology and phonology.
- Words can be combined together making complex words as well such as **"north west"** and **"heavy handed"**

Complex words can be divided into two basic types:

1. Words that have a stem (root) and an affix such "write—**re**-write".

Affixes are of two types:

- a. Prefixes, morphemes added **before** the stem "**un**happy"
 - b. Suffixes, morphemes added after the stem "normal**al**"
2. Compound words, which are made of two or more independent words such as "**arm**chair"

- **The question is, how can affixes affect stress placement on words?**

There are **three** possible effects of affixes on word stress.

1. The affix itself takes the stress ('circle, '**semi**circle)
2. The word is stressed as if there is no affix added. (nothing is changed) ('market, 'market**ing**).
3. The stress is still on the stem but changes to be on a different syllable ('magnet, mag'**netic**).

The rest of the topic gives you examples on the three cases mentioned above. Thus, my advice is to have a look at them and pay attention to the most frequent affixes and memorize at least five examples on each case.

- **Give two examples on each one of the three cases mentioned above.**