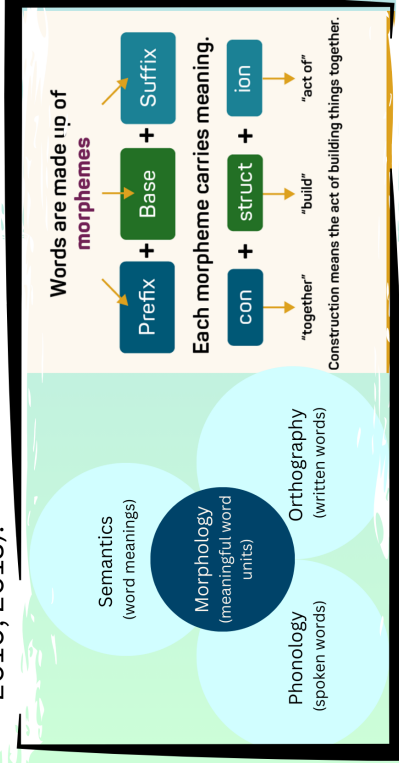


Morphological Complexity of FL ELA Texts

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Understanding Morphology

- Academic vocabulary is morphologically complex (Nagy & Anderson, 1984)
- A student's knowledge of vocabulary is related to their understanding of morphology (Lee et al., 2023).
- This understanding can be improved with morphological instruction (e.g., Goodwin & Ahn, 2010; 2013).



Impacts and Expected Results

- We expect to find a high rate of morphological complexity in school textbooks. Dawson et al. (2023) found 44% of words were morphologically complex.
- With this data, education efficacy may improve. Specialized instructions in morphology can be implemented according to the morphological complexity of the texts that students are reading.

Purpose

The main aim is to examine students' textbooks in Florida to describe the morphological complexity of their language. While there is emerging research about the morphological complexity of modern British school texts (e.g., Dawson et al., 2023), there are little comprehensive data on morphological complexity in American school texts.

Method

MorphoLex (Sánchez-Gutiérrez et al., 2017) is a database of morphological data on 70K words. It is widely used by linguists to understand morphological complexity. The database compiled from the ELA text in the current study will be examined through MorphoLex.

More on Methods

- Our study exclusively used Public Domain readings.
- They were selected based on the required ELA standard of Florida (FL ELA BEST Standards).
- We converted all the readings into a .txt file, removing all titles, line numbers, footnotes, etc.



Example

"Conventionality is not morality. Self-righteousness is not religion."

-- From Jane Eyre

→ to "Conventional-ity is not moral-ity. Self-right-i-ous-ness is not reli-gion."
4 multimorphemic words, 5 suffixes, 30.1% of words are morphologically complex.