

TYPOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

ANALYTIC (ISOLATING) LANGUAGES: words consist of single morphemes; most words consist only of a root. Mandarin Chinese, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Cambodian. Examples in Mandarin adapted from Norman J., *Chinese*, Cambridge, 1988:

1. Ta chſ fàn le.
he eat food past
'He ate the food.'
2. Ta chſ le fàn.
he eat past food
'He ate the food.'
3. Júzi w4 chſ le.
orange I eat past
'I ate the orange.'

AGGLUTINATING LANGUAGES: words consist of a stem and one or more clearly identifiable affixes. Finnish, Hungarian, Estonian, Swahili, Turkish. Examples in Estonian adapted from Oinas, F., *Basic Course in Estonian*, Indiana University, 1966:

1. Ta on kohvikus.
he is coffee-house-in
'He is in the coffee house.'
2. Lähme kohvikusse.
go-we coffee-house-into
'Let us go into the coffee house.'
3. Ma tulen uuest kohvikust.
I come new-from coffee-house-from
'I am coming out of the new coffee house.'
4. Cases:

nominative	kohvik	the coffee house
genitive	kohviku	of the coffee house
partitive	kohvikut	the coffee house
illative	kohvikusse	into the coffee house
inessive	kohvikus	in the coffee house
elative	kohvikust	out of the coffee house
allative	kohvikule	to the coffee house
adessive	kohvikul	by the coffee house
ablative	kohvikult	from the coffee house
translative	kohvikuks	for the coffee house
essive	kohvikuna	as the coffee house
terminative	kohvikuni	up to the coffee house
comitative	kohvikuga	with the coffee house
abessive	kohvikuta	without the coffee house

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INFLECTIONAL (FUSIONAL) LANGUAGES: words consist of stem and affixes which often mark several grammatical categories simultaneously. Greek, Latin, Sanskrit, Russian. Examples in Latin (NomSg=nominative singular, NomPl=nominative plural, AccSg=accusative singular, AccPl=accusative plural, 3Sg=third person singular, 3Pl=third person plural):

1. Custos fidelis consulem veterem ducit.
 NomSg NomSg AccSg AccSg 3Sg
 guard trusty consul old is leading

‘The trusty guard is leading the old consul.’

2. Custodes fideles consules veteres ducunt.
 NomPl/AccPl NomPl/AccPl NomPl/AccPl NomPl/AccPl 3Pl

‘The trusty guards are leading the old consuls.’

‘The old guards are leading the trusty consuls.’

‘The trusty consuls are leading the old guards.’

‘The old consuls are leading the trusty guards.’

POLYSYNTHETIC LANGUAGES: words consist of long strings of stems and affixes, which may translate as an entire English sentence. American Indian languages. Examples in Ayacucho Quechua adapted from Parker, G., *Ayacucho Quechua Grammar and Dictionary*, Mouton, 1969:

Verbs can be inflected for both actor and object in different persons and number.

1. riku-yki ‘I see you.’
 2. riku-yki-**.ik** ‘I see you all.’
 3. riku-yki-ku ‘We see you.’

riku: ‘see’
 yki: first person singular actor and second person singular object
.ik: marks object as plural
 ku: marks actor as plural

4. riku-wanki ‘You see me.’
 5. riku-wanki-**.ik** ‘You all see me.’
 6. riku-wanki-ku ‘We see you.’

wanki: second person singular actor and first person singular object
.ik: marks actor as plural
 ku: marks object as plural