## Questionnaire - Word-formation Characteristics of Languages

## Language: <br> Morphological Type: <br> Author (completed by): Date:

## Language family:

## Part I.

1. Are words in your language formed productively by the following wf processes? ${ }^{1}$

[^0]| N. | Incorporation |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O. | Reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| P. | Conversion $^{5}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Q. | Back- <br> formation/subtraction |  |  |  |  |
| R. | Blending |  |  |  |  |
| S. | Clipping |  |  |  |  |
| T. | Other productive WF <br> processes |  |  | . |  |

2. Please, estimate the Productivity of each of the above-mentioned WF processes in your language by using a five-degree scale, with ' 5 ' indicating 'high productive' ${ }^{6}$ and ' 1 ' indicating 'low productive'.'

|  | WF process | Productivity rating |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| A. | Prefixation |  |
| B. | Suffixation |  |
| C. | Infixation |  |
| D. | Circumfixation |  |
| E. | Prefixal-suffixal derivation |  |
| F. | Prefixal-infixal derivation |  |
| G. | Infixal-suffixal derivation |  |
| H. | Root-and-pattern derivation (transfixation) |  |
| I. | Vowel alternation |  |
| J. | Prefixation accompanied by vowel alternation |  |
| K. | Suffixation accompanied by vowel alternation |  |
| L. | Consonant alternation |  |
| M. | Compounding |  |
| N. | Incorporation |  |
| O. | Reduplication |  |
| P. | Conversion |  |
| Q. | Back-formation/subtraction |  |
| R. | Blending |  |
| S. | Clipping |  |

[^1]3. Please, answer the following questions:

|  | WF process | YES/NO | Example | Literal translation | English equivalent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A. | Prefixation |  |  |  |  |
| (a) | Is more than one prefix possible in a word? |  |  |  |  |
| (b) | In general, does each prefixal form have just one meaning? If no, give some examples of prefixes with more than one meaning? |  |  |  |  |
| (c) | Are there variants of prefixes? |  |  |  |  |
| (d) | Do prefixes ever cause changes in the base? If so, is it a frequent situation? |  |  |  |  |
| B. | Suffixation |  |  |  |  |
| (a) | Is more than one suffix possible in a word? |  |  |  |  |
| (b) | In general, does each suffixal form have just one meaning? If no, give some examples of suffixes with more than one meaning |  |  |  |  |
| (c) | Are there variants of suffixes? |  |  |  |  |
| (d) | Are there any suffixes that cause changes in the base? |  |  |  |  |
| C. | Compounding |  |  |  |  |
| (a) | Is compounding recursive? |  |  |  |  |
| (b) | Are there adjectival ( $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{A}$ ) compounds? |  |  |  |  |
| (c) | Does the language make productive use of verbal compounds? |  |  |  |  |
| (d) | Does the language make productive use of noun $(\mathrm{N}+\mathrm{N})$ compounds? Which of the following are found? |  |  |  |  |
| (d1) | Stem+Stem ${ }^{8}$ compounds |  |  |  |  |
| (d2) | Stem+Link+Stem compounds (where the Link is specific to compounding) |  |  |  |  |
| (d3) | At least one Stem is |  |  |  |  |

[^2]|  | phonologically <br> modified $^{9}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| (e) | If the language makes <br> productive use of <br> compounds both with <br> and without a linking <br> element which type is <br> more productive? |  |  |  |  |
| (f) | Are there any copulative <br> compounds? <br> any, Which, if <br> any the following are <br> found? |  |  |  |  |
| (f1) | Substantival |  |  |  |  |
| (f2) | Adjectival |  |  |  |  |
| (g) | Are there any exocentric <br> compounds? <br> (1) |  |  |  |  |
| Which, if any, of the <br> following are found? |  |  |  |  |  |
| (g1) | words like redskin ${ }^{12}$ |  |  |  |  |
| (g2) | words like French <br> garde-manger |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| D. | Reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (a) | Complete reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (b) | partial reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (b1) | preposing reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (b2) | postposing reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (b3) | infixing reduplication |  |  |  |  |
| (c) | What meanings can <br> reduplication encode <br> productively? |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| E. | Does stress have <br> a word-forming <br> capacity? ${ }^{14}$ |  |  |  |  |
| F. | Does pitch level have <br> a word-forming <br> capacity? |  |  |  |  |

[^3]
## Part II

Please answer the questions
If a particular category is not formed in your language by WF processes, simply state 'NO'

|  | Question | give examples | estimate the productivity by means of a fivedegree scale |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | The most productive way(s) of forming Agent nouns? |  |  |
| 2. | The most productive way(s) of forming Patient nouns? |  |  |
| 3. | The most productive way(s) of forming Instrumental nouns? |  |  |
| 4. | The most productive way(s) of forming Locative nouns? |  |  |
| 5. | The most productive way(s) of forming Diminutives? |  |  |
| 6. | The most productive way(s) of forming Augmentatives? |  |  |
| 7. | The most productive way(s) of forming Feminine nouns from masculine nouns? |  |  |
| 8. | The most productive way(s) of forming Masculine nouns from Feminine nouns? |  |  |
| 9. | The most productive way(s) of forming Causative verbs? |  |  |
| 10. | The most productive way(s) of forming Transitive verbs? |  |  |
| 11. | The most productive way(s) of forming Intransitive verbs? |  |  |
| 12. | Does your language have a way of forming parts of speech other than noun, verb, adjective, or adverb? |  |  |
| 13. | The most productive way(s) of forming benefactee nouns? |  |  |
| 14. | The most productive way(s) of forming action nominals ${ }^{15}$ |  |  |
| 15. | The most productive way(s) of forming frequentative or intensive markers on verbs? |  |  |
| 16. | The most productive way(s) of forming abstract nouns from nouns? |  |  |
| 17. | The most productive way(s) of forming abstract nouns from adjectives? |  |  |
| 18. | Any other important categories in your language? |  |  |
| 19. | Do any of these categories overlap? That is, is the same morpheme or process |  |  |

[^4]|  | ever used to form more than <br> one of these categories? |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

## Part III.

Additional comments completing the picture of PRODUCTIVE word-formation PROCESSES in your language:
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[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ A productive WF process is one which is synchronically used for the formation of new words.
    ${ }^{2}$ The two parts of circumfix cannot exist independently. They represent a single meaning.
    ${ }^{3}$ The two forms represent two different morphemes each of them contributing to the meaning of the WF base. Both of them are attached simultaneously, within a single WF process.

[^1]:    ${ }^{4}$ A verb-forming process, whereby a nominal stem is fused with a verbal stem to yield a larger, derived verbal stem.
    ${ }^{5}$ Including cases of change of class without adding any explicit morpheme, with inflectional paradigm functioning analogically to zero derivational morpheme.
    ${ }^{6}$ This evaluation should reflect other competing WF processes. Thus, a WF process can get the rating ' 5 ' if there is no competing WF process that restricts its applicability.
    ${ }^{7}$ Please, don't use ' 0 ' because it means that a WF process is not productively used. We are only interested in productive WF processes.

[^2]:    ${ }^{8}$ Stem is defined here as that part of a word which remains after removing all inflectional morphemes. Stem corresponds, in principle, to a WF base.

[^3]:    ${ }^{9}$ cf. Japanese rendaku, or Danish compounds with missing stød, or compounds with specific tones in modifying positions, etc.
    ${ }^{10}$ For example, producer-director, blue-green. These are sometimes referred to as dvandvas. The compound is formed by two elements of equal status, and the compound as a whole is often not a hyponym of either element.
    ${ }^{11}$ The head of compound is not explicitly expressed; it lies outside the compound.
    ${ }^{12} \mathrm{~A}$ type of potato with a red skin - the unexpressed denotatum has a red skin
    ${ }^{13}$ garde-manger 'keep food' = 'pantry' - where a verb and its object are used to denote an entity which carries out this action
    ${ }^{14}$ For example, record $[\text { 'rekəd }]_{\mathrm{N}}$ vs. record[ri'ko:d d]

[^4]:    ${ }^{15}$ abstract nouns derived from verbs, for example engagement ${ }_{\mathrm{N}}$ from engage $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{V}}$

