## COMPOUNDING

#### **TERMS**

- COMPOUND
- COMPOUND vs PHRASE
- KINDS
- HEADED And HEADLESS COMPOUND
- COMBINING ITEMS
- PHRASAL WORDS
- BLENDS And ACRONYMS

#### 1. COMPOUND

words formed by combining roots and the much smaller category of phrasal words, that is items that have the internal structure of phrases but function syntactically as words

#### 2. COMPOUND vs. PHRASE

- a. stress: first and second element
- b. semantic/meaning:

  a compound tends to have a meaning that is more or less idiosyncratic or unpredictable

#### 3. KINDS

- Compound Verbs
- Compound Adjectives
- Compound Nouns

## a. Compound Verbs

- (1) verb-verb (VV): *stir-fry, freeze-dry*
- (2) noun-verb (NV): *hand-wash, air-condition, steam-clean*
- (3) adjective-verb (AV): *dry-clean, whitewash*
- (4) preposition-verb (PV): underestimate, outrun, overcook

## b. Compound Adjectives

Some right headed compound adjectives

- (1) noun-adjective (NA): sky-high, coal-black, oil-rich
- (2) adjective-adjective (AA): *grey-green, squeaky-clean, red-hot*
- (3) preposition-adjective (PA): *underfull, overactive*

## c. Compound Nouns

- (1) verb-noun (VN): *swearword, drophammer, playtime*
- (2) noun-noun (NN): hairnet, mosquito net, butterfly net, hair restorer
- (3) adjective-noun (AN): *blackboard, greenstone, faintheart*
- (4) preposition-noun (PN): in-group, outpost, overcoat

# 4. HEADED And HEADLESS COMPOUNDS

- blackboard (a kind of board), greenstone (a kind of stone)
- pickpockets (not a kind of pocket), tickleback (a kind of fish with spines on its back) and sabretooth.

## 5. COMBINING ITEMS

- compounds that are made up of bound roots
- Examples:
  - anthropology, sociology, cardiogram, electrocardiogram, retrograde, retrospect,

## 6. PHRASAL WORDS

complex items that function as words, whose internal structure is that of a clause or phrase rather than of a compound.

Example: jack-in-the-box, dyed-in-the-wool

## 7. BLENDS And ACRONYMS

a. BLENDS –a kind of compound where at least one component is reproduced only partially.

#### b. ACRONYMS-

- (1) a component of a blend can undergo is reduction to just one sound (or letter), usually the first
- (2) blends made up of initial letters

## **Examples of Blends and Acronyms**

- Blends
  - -smog, chortle, cheeseburger
- Acronyms
  - -NATO, RAM, AIDS