

Brown's Stages

- **Roger Brown**
 - developmental psychologist
 - A First Language
 - Adam, Eve, and Sarah
 - syntax - predominant focus
- **Brown's Five Stages**
 - Owens (2008) Table 9.2, p. 265
- **Brown's Stage I**
 - 12 to 26 months or 1.0 to 2.0 MLU
 - divided into Early Stage I and Late Stage I

Morphemes

- **def. = the basic unit of meaning in a language**
- **can be a sound, syllable, or word**
- **free morpheme = stands alone to create meaning**
- **bound morpheme = must occur with a free morpheme to create meaning**
- **2 types of bound morphemes**
 - derivational
 - inflectional

Morphemes cont'd

- **Derivational morphemes**
 - Can be prefixes and suffixes in English
 - Change the class or category of a word
 - ex. Slow (adjective) + ly = slowly (adverb)
- **Inflectional morphemes**
 - Only suffixes in English
 - Mark grammatical elements like verb tense and plurality
 - Counted in MLU computations

MLU

- Mean Length of Utterance
- mean = average
- Measured in morphemes
- Compute by counting # morphemes in each utterance, get the total for the sample, then divide by total # of utterances
- Rules for MLU by Brown in Owens (2008) p. 265, Table 9.1

Early Stage I (EI)

- MLU = 1.0 to 1.5 morphemes
- Age range = 12 to 22 months
- Focus is on semantic roles (See Chapter 8, Owens, 2008, and prior notes section)

Brown's Late Stage I (LI)

- Age = 22-26 months
- MLU = 1.5 - 2.0 morphemes
- 2-word utterances emerge
- What is the grammar (or rules) for how words are combined in children learning English?
 - Semantic-syntactic relations
 - Word order

Brown's Stage II

- Age = 27-30 months
- MLU = 2.0 to 2.5 morphemes
- Emergence of grammatical morphemes
 - Brown's 14 Grammatical Morphemes Analysis

Brown's 14 Grammatical Morphemes

- Emerge as early as 19 months, but heavy emergence in Stage II
- Mastery doesn't occur for most until Stage V
 - mastery is 90% correct in obligatory contexts
- Consistent sequence of development of these 14 morphemes across research studies
- Owens (2008) pp. 267-273 and Table 9.3
