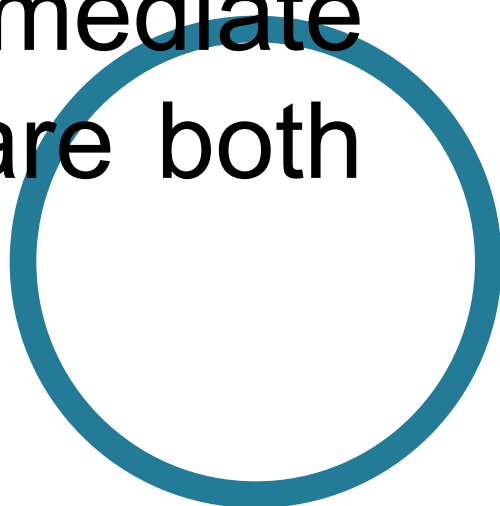


# Word composition

**Word composition** is the type of word-formation, in which new words are produced by combining two or more Immediate Constituents (ICs), which are both derivational bases.



The Ics of compound words  
represent bases of all three  
structural types:

**Bases that coincide  
with morphological  
stems**

**Bases that  
coincide with  
word-forms**

**Bases that  
coincide with  
word-groups**

**1) Simple**

**week-end**

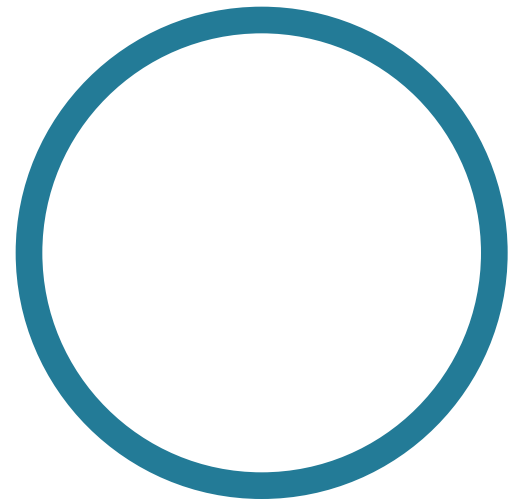
**2) Derived**

**letter-writer**

**3) Compound**

**aircraft-carrier**

- The meaning of compound word is made up of two components: **structural** and **lexical**.



# The structural meaning

The meaning  
of their  
distributional  
pattern

fruit-market  
Market-fruit

The  
meaning of  
their  
derivational  
pattern  
n+Ven

Duty-bound  
Wind-driven

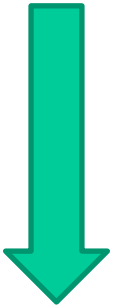
# The lexical meaning

- **is formed on the base of the combined lexical meanings of their constituents.**
- **ex. Handbag is not “a bag designed to be carried in the hand” but “ a woman’s small bag to carry everyday personal item”**

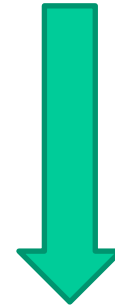
# Classification of compound words



**According to the relations  
between the lcs compound  
words fall into:**



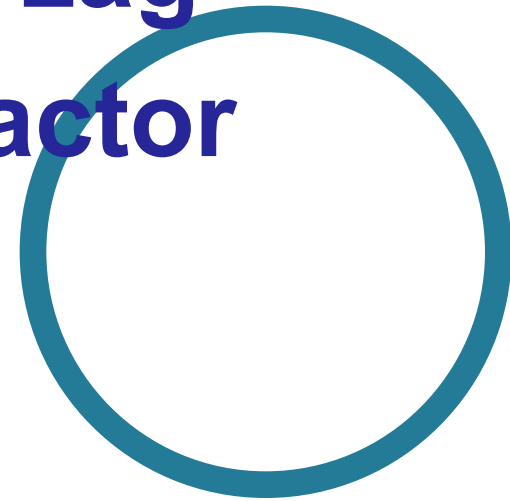
**Coordinative**



**Subordinative**

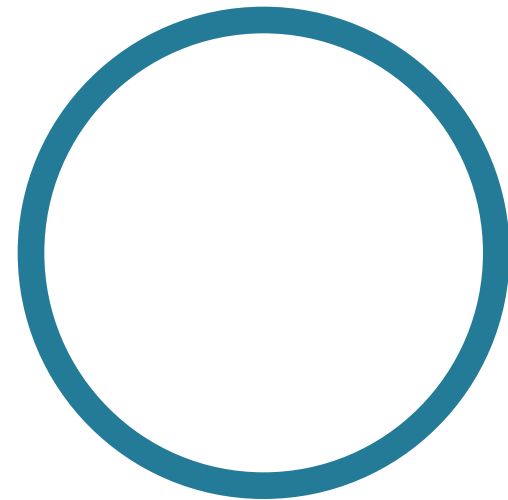
# Coordinative compounds:

- **A) reduplicative : poof-poof, fifty-fifty**
- **B) compounds formed by joining the phonically variated rhythmic twin forms: chit-chat, zig-zag**
- **C) additive compounds: actor-manager**



# Subordinative compounds

- **Based on the domination of the head-member which is the second IC.**
- **ex. Stone-deaf, age-long**



# According to the part of speech compounds fall into:

**Compound nouns-** sunbeam

**Compound Adjectives** - heart-free

**Compound pronouns-** somebody,  
nothing



**Compound adverbs-** nowhere,  
inside



**Compound verbs-** to bypass

# According to the means of composition:

- 1) compounds, composed without connecting elements, ex. Dog-house
- 2) compounds, composed with a help of a vowel or a consonant as a linking element, ex. Statesman
- 3) compounds, composed with a help of linking elements represented by preposition or conjunction stems, ex. Son-in-law

# According to the type of bases

Compounds  
proper

ex. Door-step

Derivational  
compounds

Ex.

Long-legged

