Intro to Linguistics
English morphology problems (morpheme vs allomorph)

1. All of the following words end in *'er'*. Is *'er'* a morpheme in all of the words? Is it the same morpheme in all of the words? Provide proof of your answers. To do a morphological proof, you must (1) point out which elements of the word you believe to be morphemes; (2) prove their morphemehood: first, give the meaning of each morpheme you find in the word and, second, for bound morphemes, give at least two more examples of words that contain the same bound morpheme with the same meaning.

Words:
taller, river, shorter, farmer, either, smarter, caller, painter, finger, sweeter, other, never, teacher, cover

2. Do the same, using the following words, which all end in *'en'* :
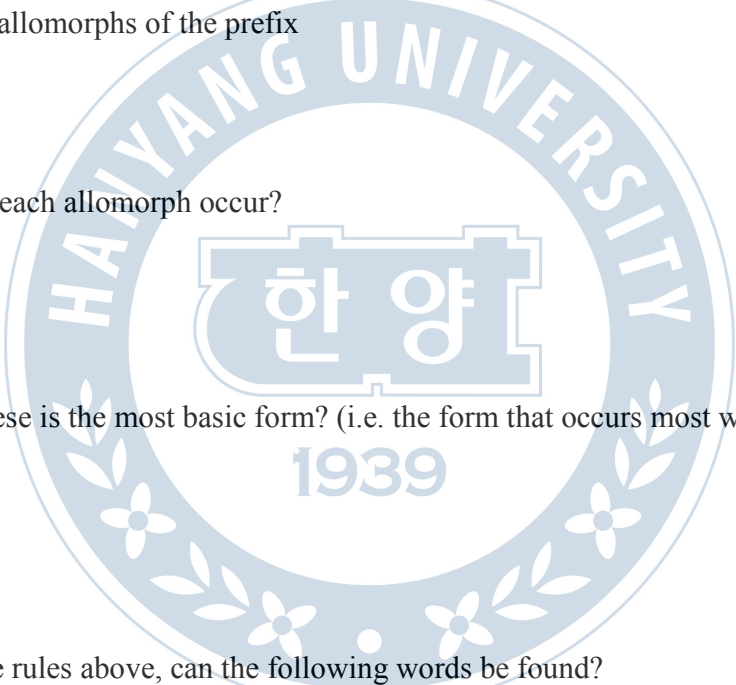**Words:**
soften, broken, taken, even, whiten, often, eaten, sudden, widen, harden, open, deepen, oven

3) Negative prefix in English (un-)

The following data contains English words with 'un' and the roots/stems of the words.

comfortable	uncomfortable
pleasant	unpleasant
intelligent	unintelligent
natural	unnatural
believable	unbelievable
sung	unsung
assuming	unassuming
fashionable	unfashionable
gracious	ungracious

1) List all the allomorphs of the prefix

2) Where does each allomorph occur?

3) Which of these is the most basic form? (i.e. the form that occurs most widely)

4) Based on the rules above, can the following words be found?

4) The out-meaning prefix in English ('ex')

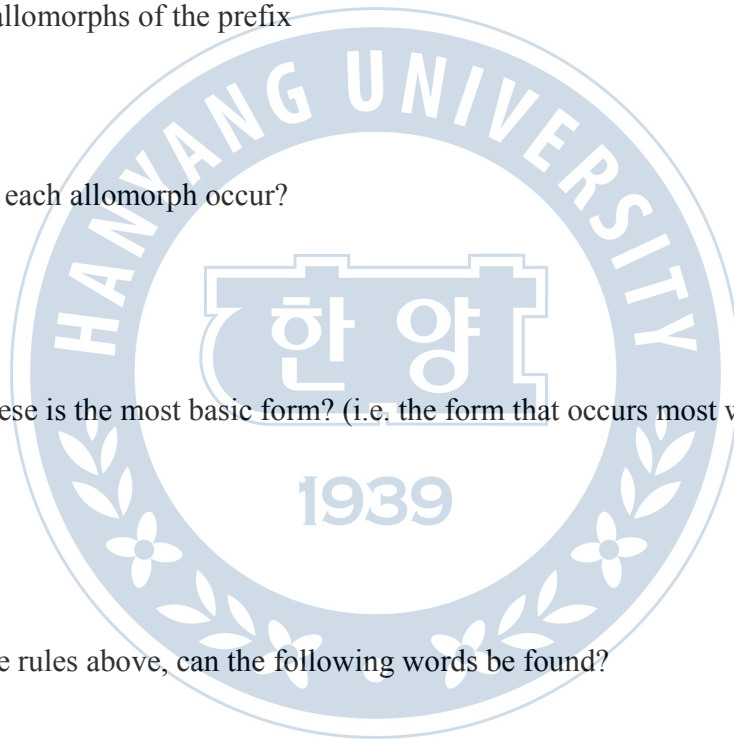|	
press	express
acerbate	exacerbate
cite	excite
emplary	exemplary
communicate	excommunicate
cede	exceed
pose	expose
terminate	exterminate
act	exact

1) List all the allomorphs of the prefix

2) Where does each allomorph occur?

3) Which of these is the most basic form? (i.e. the form that occurs most widely)

4) Based on the rules above, can the following words be found?

5) The morpheme 'bomb' in English

Accents have been included to indicate stress.

bomb
bombed
bombing
bombs
bomber
bombardier
bombastic

Notes:

- [ard]   = verb suffix
- [z]   = plural
- [d]   = past tense
-                  = noun suffix
-                  = adjective suffix
-                  = present participle suffix
-                  = noun suffix

1) List out the allomorphs of 'bomb'

2)   Where does each allomorph occur?

3) Which is the more basic form?