

# EDCI 4010

## Phonology, syntax, & morphology development; Language-Literacy Connection

Week 4

# Phonological Subsystem of Language and Phonological Skills

- The system of sounds of a language
- The system of rules of sound distribution and sequencing, of stresses and intonation
- Phonological Skills of Language Learners and Early Literacy Development:
  - To recognize and produce sounds of the language they are learning
  - To combine the sounds into words and sentences with the proper intonation patterns.

Difficulties with phonology predict and result in difficulties with spelling (through receptive and expressive difficulties with sound-letter and sound-symbol correspondence), listening and reading comprehension, and vocabulary acquisition (due to auditory processing of language during early childhood-early elementary years).

# Morphological Subsystem of Language and Morphological Skills

- Subsystem of word formation; consists of word roots (bases), prefixes, and suffixes
- Includes rules of how words are formed
- Morphological Skills of Language Learners and Early Literacy Development:
  - to form words correctly
  - to recognize the meaning of the word parts while blending or segmenting these parts
  - to recognize word parts (roots, prefixes and suffixes) while decoding
  - to correctly “assemble” word parts into words and reflect on the word meaning
  - to correctly “disassemble” words into word parts and reflect on the whole word meaning and the meaning of its parts

Difficulties with morphology predict and result in difficulties with vocabulary acquisition, spelling, and listening and reading comprehension

# Decoding and Encoding: Reciprocal Reading and Writing Skills That Complement Each Other

- Connecting “muscle movement and tactile kinetic letter formation with hearing the sound and associating it with its name” M. Gillis, 2023 (Ed Week Article, see link below)
- **Encoding:** breaking down a spoken word into its individual sounds in the act of spelling and writing; it is a writing skill connected to phonics; through practice and at later stages of language and reading development it is also connected to morphological skills
- **Decoding:** sounding out the words and blending sounds together to create a word; it is a reading skill connected to phonics (individual sounds) and morphological skills (recognition of word parts)
- Our early literacy instruction and early reading instruction is very “decoding heavy”.
- Let’s take a look at Ed Week Article (Jan 2023) to examine encoding and decoding a bit closer <https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/encoding-explained-what-it-is-and-why-its-essential-to-literacy/2023/01>