

# MORPHEME

is the most elemental grammatical unit in the given language. A single word may be composed of one or more morphemes :

- one morpheme: boy
- two morphemes: boy+ ish
- three morphemes: boy+ish+ness
- four morphemes: un+ desire+able+ity



# What are morphemes?

- A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning or grammatical function.

boys

girls

A morpheme can be a root word, prefix, or suffix.

like

unlike

likely

Most words are more than one morpheme long, but a morpheme is not the same as a syllable.

likable ( 3 syllables, 2 morphemes)

How many morphemes are there in the word “unbelievable”?

Exercise:

Write words with the morpheme tooth.

1. Believe
2. Eat
3. Come
4. Give
5. Live
6. Hope
7. Trust
8. Create
9. Control
10. Stand

