Types of Words in English

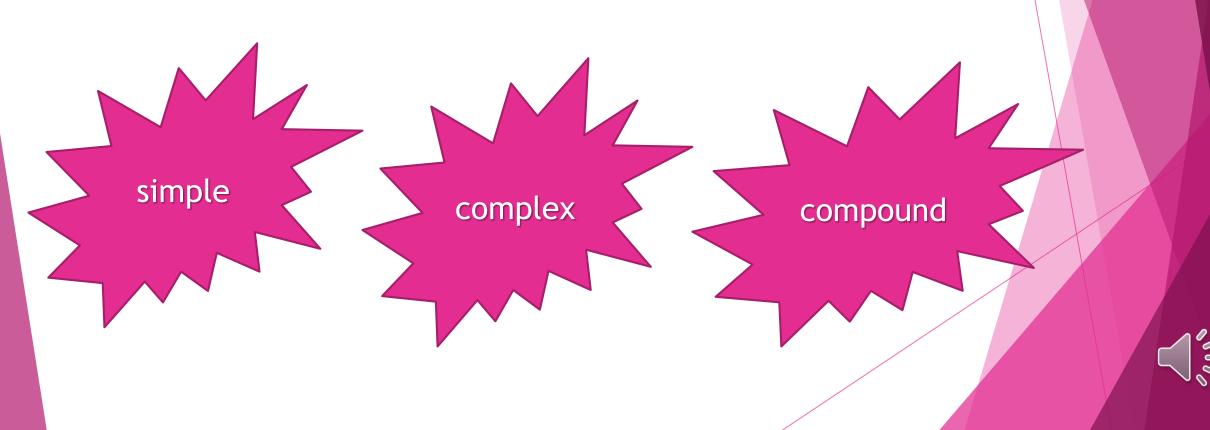
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Words are classified on the basis of the kinds and the combinations of the morphemes of which they are composed into three types:



Simple words

► They consist of single free morphemes.

► EX: Play, great, spy, art, too, sand, write, space, lion, clear, deny, between, glad,...etc



Complex words

They consist of bound morphemes only or a free and one or more bound morphemes.

Examples:

include, suicide, project, comprehended (bound morphemes only)

greatness, suggestions, unclear, feet, wrote, rewrite (free and bound morpheme(s))



Compound words

► These words are composed of two or more free forms.

EX:

Greenhouse, overheat, afternoon, make up, mother-in-law, devil-may-care, sunflower, take off,...etc



Types of compound words

1- Closed compounds - no space between the parts of a compound word

flowerpot, keyboard, notebook, bookstore,...

2- Open compounds - there is a space between the parts of a compound word

School bus, living room, take off, start over, white house,...

3- Hyphenated compounds - a hyphen is used between the parts of a compound word

mother-in-law, merry-go-round -, happy-go-lucky, well-built,...

