

purpose whatever. The compound stems of word-sentences may, by historical changes, become parts of speech—notional terms—denotive of the things described by the word-sentences from which they are derived, and they can be so considered only when the linguistic sense has come to disregard the separate meanings of the elements thus combined. This is *parasyntesis*.* A prolific source of much error concerning the nature of the grammatic processes prevailing in this language is the fact that these word-sentences are mistaken for words, for a word-sentence must, it is repeated, undergo certain historical changes of form and function before it becomes a word—a part of speech. Conventional usage alone is the arbiter in this, as it is in all things linguistic.

To exemplify this the following concise analysis of the stems of a verb and a noun is given. The verb-stem selected is *-hě^s-yěⁿ*, from the word-sentence *ru-hě^s-yěⁿ*, "he hears, understands (by hearing)," and the noun stem is *-thětc-hrā-kwě*, from *ut-hětc-hrā-kwě*, "a chair, seat." These two stems have been chosen solely for the reason that their constitutive elements have not yet undergone that degree of effacement which would render them quite irrecognizable to any but an accomplished master of the language.

The full and original form of *ut-hětc-hrā-kwě* was *ut-hětc-hī-hrā-kwě*, which was evidently derived from the word-sentence *yěⁿt-hětc-hī-hrā-khwā*, "one (some one) uses it to support his buttocks," in which the pronominal element is *yěⁿt-* (which is the reflexive form of *-yā*, "one or she"), meaning "one-his" or "she-her," the reflexive performing a possessive and not a reflexive office; the noun-stem is *-hětc-hī*, from *u-hětc-hě*, "buttocks, fundament," and, lastly, the verb *-hgrā-khwā*, "to support with," "to use for supporting," or "to use to support." This verb-stem is from the word-sentence *ra-hgrā-khwā*, "he uses it for supporting (it)" or "he supports it with (it)," in which the "it" enclosed in parenthesis is understood. These two notional stems, *-hětc-hě* (fundament) and *-hgrā-khwā* (to support with, use to support), then form the compound stem of the word, *ut-hětc-hgrā-kwě*, "chair, stool;" but both stems themselves may be still further reduced to show the original ideas which combined to form them. The verb-stem chosen is *-hě^s-syěⁿ*, from the simple sentence *ru-hě^s-syěⁿ*, "he hears it," or simply, "he hears, understands (by hearing)." The com-

* The formation and derivation of a word from a compound.