HOMEWORK 5: MORPHOLOGY

Question 1. Some English morphology.

Consider the following words:
1. unpleasantness
2. optionality
3. decentralized

(a) For each word, identify the root. What is its category?

1. ________________________________
2. ________________________________
3. ________________________________

(b) For each word, identify each affix. State whether it is a prefix or a suffix; whether it is derivational or inflectional (or neither); what is the subcategorization frame for each of the affixes.

1. ________________________________
   __________________________________
   __________________________________
   __________________________________

2. ________________________________
   __________________________________
   __________________________________

3. ________________________________
   __________________________________
   __________________________________

(c) Draw a tree structure for each word indicating the order of attachment of the morphemes.
Question 2. Compounds

The following compound is structurally ambiguous. For each meaning, give an unambiguous paraphrase and draw a tree that corresponds to this meaning:

Argentine tango dancer

Question 3. Structural reasoning

When analysing the word unhappiness, we draw a tree like this:

```
   N
  /\  
 A \  
  \  
Af A Af
|   |   |
un happy ness
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So, we claim that first we combine un+happy and then combine unhappy+ness. This is because in the alternative derivation, we would have to first combine happy+ness, and then add the prefix un+happiness – but un does not combine with nouns, e.g. *unjoy, *unanger. So, there is only one way to put this word together – the one given in the tree.

Using the same type of argument, justify tree structures for the words

i. inexpensive
ii. redisposal