

## Reduplication Review

In these lessons, we have seen several examples of what we have called “reduplication,” which is the process of forming new words either by doubling a word or a piece of a word in order to form a new word. We’ve seen that Hawaiian and Lushootseed employ reduplication to form words.

So does Indonesian.

rumah	‘house’	rumahrumah	‘houses’
ibu	‘mother’	ibuibu	‘mothers’

And so does Pangasinan, a language of the Philippines.

baley	‘town’	balbaley	‘towns’
lupa	‘face’	luplupa	‘faces’
sondalo	‘soldier’	sonsondalo	‘soldiers’

Reduplication is just one way languages have of forming new words that have new meanings. Languages have all sorts of other ways of making new meaningful words. Here are a few of the ways that English uses to form new words.

**Coining:** invented words that are not related to other words

*bling, quiz, gnarly*

**Compounding:** two or more words behave as a single word

*backlash, bailout, Facebook, undertake, voiceover*

**Blending:** telescoping two words together

*webinar, brunch, spork*

**Clipping:** forming words by omitting syllables

*demo, lab, mum*

**Conversion:** assigning one word more than one syntactic **category** (verb, noun, adjective, etc.)

*father, tweet, email*

**Acronyms:** words from abbreviations

*MOMA, laser, radar*

**Eponyms:** words derived from names, often brand names

*jello, Kleenex, cardigan*

Does English use reduplication? Consider words like the following, and discuss whether they are examples of reduplication such as those we’ve seen in the other languages we’ve investigated.

knock knock, hocus-pocus, hoity-toity, tutti-frutti, bye bye  
baby talk examples: mama, dada, boo boo, wawa (for *water*)