Reading guide:
Odden (2005: Ch 4 excerpts), on URs and paradigms

Background
This reading provides an overview of some of the most fundamental concepts in phonology. Make sure you master these concepts so that we can build on them in the rest of the course.

Prepare for class discussion
Be sure you understand, and can explain, what Odden means by the following:

(1) p 70: “The important step here is that we test the hypothesis by combining the supposed root and the affix in a very literal-minded way…”

(2) p 70: “Rules which are stated as ‘only applying in the following words’ are almost always wrong.”

(3) p 72: “It is very important to understand that the grammar does not formally derive one word [by which Odden means ‘surface form of a word’] from another.”

(4) p 72: “The principles for combining roots and affixes are not part of the phonology…”

(5) p 76: “…it is dangerous, and incorrect in these two cases [Russian and Finnish], to assume that the ‘most basic’ form of a word according to morphological criteria is also the underlying form of the word.”

(6) p 85: “…it is wrong to think of deriving underlying forms by chopping off affixes from some single column of data.”

(7) p 88: “It is also important to understand the difference between saying that the underlying form is the simple form, or is the perfective form, and saying that we may best learn what the underlying form is by looking at the perfective, or simple form, or some other form.”