

**Mel'čuk, Igor A. 1992.** Suppletion. *International Encyclopedia of Linguistics*, ed. by William Bright, 97-99. New York: Oxford University Press.

The article provides a rigorous definition of suppletion based on the concept of corepresentability: linguistic units *X* and *Y* are corepresentable if and only if they can both be represented in terms of the same unit *Z* and perhaps other units. Types of suppletion and examples are given: radical inflectional suppletion, radical derivational suppletion, affixal suppletion, word-form suppletion (distinct from the suppletion of the first type by virtue of the word-form unsegmentability, like French *suis~est*) and phraseme suppletion. Reasons that can cause suppletion are provided: regular phonological change, irregular phonological change and lexical change.