Derivation—Homework

1.
What is the reason for the impossibility of the following Hebrew words?

'drummer'	תופֵן*
'at length (adverb)'	ארוכית*
'female doctoral student'	דוקטורנטה*
'phone (verb)'	טלפן /talfan/*

2.
English has two suffixes that form abstract nouns from adjectives: *-ity* and *-ness*. As the following words (from the second edition of the textbook, p. 133) show, *-ity* is restricted to going on words in the "borrowed vocabulary stratum"; i.e. latinate words:

electric$_{latinate}$	electricity
probable$_{latinate}$	probability
captive$_{latinate}$	captivity
curious$_{latinate}$	curiosity
bountiful$_{native}$	*bountifulity
aimless$_{native}$	*aimlessity
darkish$_{native}$	*darkishity
fearsome$_{native}$	*fearsomity

a.   Formulate the morphological rule affixing *-ity*.

English also has a suffix *-able* (sometimes spelled *-ible*), which goes on verbs and makes adjectives. Although *-able* is of Latin origin, it can be affixed to both native and latinate words.

accept$_{latinate}$	acceptable
commend$_{latinate}$	commendable
corrupt$_{latinate}$	corruptible
defend$_{latinate}$	defensible
read$_{native}$	readable
drink$_{native}$	drinkable
sing$_{native}$	singable
understand$_{native}$	understandable

Now note the acceptability of all of the following:

acceptability	readability
commendability	drinkability
corruptibility	singability
defensibility	understandability

b.   What can you conclude from this about the status of words with the suffix *-able*?
c.   Formulate the rule deriving *-able* adjectives from verbs.
d.   What does this add to the discussion of whether affixes are the heads of words?