A STUDY OF ADJECTIVE DERIVATIONAL AFFIXES DERIVED FROM NOUN ON TWITTER ACCOUNT OF TAYLOR SWIFT

Ida Ayu Gayatri Pujastuti1, Putu Devi Maharani2, Ni Made Verayanti Utami3
Mahasraswati Denpasar University, Indonesia123

gayatri.pujastuti@gmail.com1, devmaharani86@gmail.com2
verayantii.utami@unmas.ac.id3

ABSTRACT

This study expects an investigation of morphological analysis, specifically derivational affixes forming adjectives derived from nouns on Taylor Swift’s twitter account. This study aims to find the types and analyse the morphological process of derivational affixes forming adjectives from nouns. The observation method was used in collecting the data and applied a note-taking technique to collect the data. Meanwhile, descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze and arrange the data qualitatively in order to give description clearly that related to the theory proposed by Katamba (1993) which discusses the types, also the theory from Fromkin et al (2013) to describe the morphological process based on the data that have been found. The result found there are 61 suffixes are used to change nouns become adjectives such as -y, -ful, -less, -ous, -ic, -ial, -al, and also the process of those affixes attach to root and base in forming adjective from noun.

INTRODUCTION

Language is an effective way to convey ideas, messages, intentions, feelings and opinions to other people. Language can be in speaking or writing forms, because sometimes some people may be clearer to convey something through oral rather than writing. Each has its own language
which is used as a tool of daily communication. However, English is a global language which is the most necessary these days. In Indonesia, students have been studying English since elementary school and several of them have even learned it in kindergarten, because this language is required nowadays. At first, people who learned English aimed to communicate with foreigners, however in the present, English has started affecting daily life. Learning a language, especially English, is related to vocabulary. Hornby (2006:1645) states that vocabulary is all the words that are used or known by a person when they talk about a particular subject in a language. Vocabulary relates to words, since it is formed from word order. One of the fields of linguistics that studies words is Morphology. Morphology is the study of word formation, which is how new words are created and how they are used to function in a sentence. Morpheme is a basic term to learn in this field of linguistics.

Katamba (1993) states morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning. Morphemes are divided into four parts: root, affixes, stem and base. Crowley (1995: 6) adds affixes are categorized as a bound morpheme, which means affixes cannot stand alone and need other free morphemes such as root or base to attach to it. There are three kinds of affixes those are prefix which is an affix that attaches before a root or base e.g. re-, un-, infix is an affix that inserts into the root or base, and suffix is an affix attaches after root or base e.g. -ous, -less, -ly, -ing, -ed. There are two types of processing of new word forms in Morpheme such as inflectional morpheme and derivational morpheme. Inflectional morphemes do not change categories and cannot create new lexemes. Meanwhile, derivational morphemes can create new lexemes, class words and change the meaning. In forming a new word, there is a morphological process which aims to analyse the way free morpheme and bound morpheme are combined to create a word that is able to change the meaning of the root. Fromkin et al (2013:49) says that tree diagram is a tool that is used by linguists in order to represent the hierarchical organization of words.

There are several ways to learn derivational affixes in order to find new vocabulary for ourselves, it can be by reading, writing and listening. Social media is one of the most popular media because almost everyone must have social media. One of the most popular social media among teenagers is Twitter. Twitter users often write tweets to convey their thoughts, feelings, and ideas through writing. Tweet is a feature in twitter as a place which aims to post something in the word form, but can also post photos and videos. Furthermore, some users admitted that Twitter is like a diary book since it is a comfortable place to convey thoughts and feelings through writing. It is also one of the most up-to-date social media about what is happening worldwide. In this study, the writer analyzed a twitter account belonging to Taylor Swift, because there are several variations of
derivational affixes, especially in forming adjectives from nouns on her twitter account. The Derivative topic was chosen in this study because it is interesting to learn the formation of words in English. Besides, it can help us to enrich our English vocabulary through reading.

A few previous studies focused on the types and the functions of derivational affixes, and some of them have been limited to analyzing suffixes that attach to one word class. Therefore, this study intends to focus on analyzing affixes to form adjectives from nouns. The objectives of this study are; to find the types of derivational affixes to form adjectives from nouns and to analyze the morphological process of derivational affixes in forming adjectives from nouns.

METHODS

The data in this study were analyzed by using the theory from Katamba (1993) to find the types of derivational affixes to form adjectives from nouns. Meanwhile, the theory that was used to identify the morphological process of derivational affixes was proposed by Fromkin et al (2013). Descriptive qualitative method was used in this research to analyze and arrange the data. The researcher used a descriptive method because the data were described by using paragraphs, and a qualitative method because the researcher collected the data and made an analysis. Moreover, quantitative was used as a support method to show the percentage of each type. The focus was on derivational affixes to form adjectives derived from nouns. The data source that was used in this study was taken from the twitter account of Taylor Swift. Taylor Alison Swift or better known as Taylor Swift is an American singer, song writer and also a producer who was born on December 13, 1989 in West Reading, Pennsylvania, the United States. Besides being interested in music, she is also good at writing poetry and that talent helps her to write her own songs. Taylor’s twitter account was chosen as the data source because there are several variations of derivational affixes specially to form adjectives from nouns which are interesting to analyze. The reason is also supported by her struggles and amazing achievements that she wrote during a career as an American singer.

The observation method was used in collecting the data. This method was done by reading the data source carefully, finding and taking note of the words which are attached by affixes that considered as word class adjectives, identifying the data to find the word class of the base before being attacked by suffixes because this study just focus on the word class of adjective which formed from noun, the next is checking the meaning of each word by using a guaranteed dictionary, then classifying the types of suffixes to form adjective from noun that have been found, and the last is putting
the data into the table and explaining them through sentences and paragraphs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

RESULTS

Based on the analysis of types and morphological process of derivational affixes, 61 data were found on the twitter account of Taylor Swift. There is only suffix as a type of affixes was found when changing nouns becomes an adjective. Moreover, each type of those affixes has a process which was analysed to form a new word. The percentage of derivational affixes which form word class adjectives derived from nouns was counted in the table in order to know the number of the data that have been found on Taylor Swift’s twitter account. The formula for using the table is as follows:

\[ P = \frac{F}{N} \times 100\% \]

\( P \) = Percentage of the types of derivational affixes  
\( F \) = Frequency of each types  
\( N \) = Total number of data that have been found

Based on the table of findings below, researchers have found and presented it in percentage form. Of the various types of conflict, namely personal, cultural and social conflicts. Each of these conflicts is described in detail in the amount of data that has been analyzed by the author. Among them, personal conflict present 4 data terms, cultural conflict presents 2 data terms, and the last social conflict presents 1 data term. From the 7 data below, all of them have been added up in percentage form. Because this is what the author has obtained from the data source.

Table 1. Types of Derivational Affixes Forming Adjective from Noun

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Derivational Suffixes Forming Adjectives from Noun</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>-y</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>-ful</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>21.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>-less</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27.87%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to table 1 above, it shows the types of derivational affixes found on the twitter account of Taylor Swift. There are 61 occurrences and all of those are categorized as suffixes which are divided into 7 types of affixes to form adjectives from nouns. Accordingly, the total number of suffix -y that were found are 7 words (11.48%), suffix -ful are 13 (21.31%), suffix -less are 17 (27.87%), there are only 3 of suffix -ous (4.92%), suffix -ic are also 3 words (4.92%), suffix -ial are 11 (18.03%), and the last data is suffix -al with the total are 7 (11.48%). Furthermore, suffix -less is the most occurrences of derivational suffixes based on the data source with the total of data where found are 17.

**DISCUSSION**

**Data 1**

.. I just seriously feel so **lucky** and will spend forever trying to find ways to say thank you - (15/12/19)

A base *luck* and suffix -*y* are two morphemes that form a word *lucky* in the data above. According to the English Etymology Dictionary (2019), those are several functions of suffix -*y* and one of them as an adjective suffix which means ‘full of or characterized by’. The morphological process is shown below:

```
Adjective
     /
    /
Luck   -y
      /
(Noun)
Luck + -y → Lucky
```

*Lucky* is the result of word-forming of *luck* which is a root that cannot be separated into smaller units, this word is categorized as a noun before attaching the suffix -*y* to it. *Luck* means success or failure is caused by chance.
rather than through an act. Meanwhile, the definition of lucky is having, bringing, or the result of good luck that happens to someone by chance. Therefore, by adding suffix -y to the root luck then the process forms lucky, which means there is a change in word class and the meaning from the base.

**Data 2**

I’m asking the Capitol Commission and the Tennessee Historical Commission to please consider the implications of how hurtful it would be to continue fighting for these monuments – (13/07/20)

Suffix -ful in the data above has a definition that is word-forming element attached to nouns and the meaning is to convey full of, having, characterized by also amount. This suffix is formed from Old English -ful which is an adjective. The word hurtful is derived from a base noun hurt and then followed by suffix -ful. The morphological process is explained below:

![Diagram](http://example.com/diagram.png)

There is only one morphological process which creates the word hurtful by adding suffix -ful to the root hurt, because hurt is the smallest unit of free morpheme which has a meaning. The word hurt is a noun, then a suffix -ful attached to it to change the word class of the root becomes an adjective. Hurt means a physical injury or harm, but can also be interpreted as emotional pain or distress. Meanwhile, after being attacked by suffix -ful, it becomes an adjective hurtful which has a meaning of causing distress to someone’s feeling (Oxford English Dictionary: 2010).

**Data 3**

I’m thrilled to tell you that my new version of Fearless (Taylor’s Version) is done and will be with you soon. It has 26 songs including 6 never before released songs from the vault. Love Story (Taylor’s Version) will be out tonight. – 11/2

According to the English Etymology Dictionary (2019), the function of suffix -less is to express lacking, cannot be, and does not. It comes from Old English -leas which means free from something. In the data above, the word fearless derived from a root fear and a derivational suffix -less. The morphological process can be seen below:
In the process above, *fear* is classified into free morpheme which means this word can stand alone. Meanwhile, suffix *-less* is a bound morpheme which must attach to a free morpheme in order to be meaningful. The word *fear* has a meaning of an unpleasant emotion that is caused by the threat of danger, pain, or harm. Moreover, the meaning of *fearless* which has been attached by suffix *-less* means showing a lack of fear (Oxford English Dictionary: 2010). From the explanation above, there is a change in the root in terms of word class from nouns to adjectives and also the meaning of the root.

**Data 4**

There’s a dazzling haze, a **mysterious** way about you dear... (28/08/19)

According to English Etymology Dictionary (2019), suffix *-ous* is used to form a word class of adjective that derives from noun and has meaning of having, full of, having to do with, doing, inclined to. This suffix comes from Old French. According to the data 4 above, the suffix *-ous* requires to attach to a noun in order to create an adjective. The word *mysterious* comes from a base *mystery* which is a noun and a derivational suffix *-ous*. The explanation is described below:

```
Adjective
  /\       /
Mystery -ous
   /\       /
(Noun)
Mystery + -ous → Mysterious
```

*Mysterious* is formed from two morphemes that are *mystery* as a free morpheme then being attached by suffix *-ous* as a bound morpheme since bound morphemes cannot stand alone without free morphemes such as base and root. As a noun, *mystery* means something difficult, strange and cannot be understood or explained logically. Meanwhile, after followed by suffix *-ous* the noun changed to become an adjective *mysterious*. Mysterious
has a definition of having difficult and impossible to understand, explain, or identify because something is full of mystery (Oxford English Dictionary: 2010). Accordingly, suffix -ous is one of derivational suffixes that can derived adjectives from nouns, also change the meaning and the word class.

Data 5

Taking down statues isn’t going to fix centuries of **systemic** oppression, violence and hatred that black people have had to endure but it might bring us one small step closer … (13/07)

According to English Etymology Dictionary (2019), the function of this suffix as a word forming to create a word class of adjective which has meaning of ‘having to do with, having the nature of, being, made of, caused by, similar to’. Based on the data above, the word **systemic** is formed from two morphemes which are combined in it. The morphological process to form systemic is described below:

```
Adjective
 System  -ic
(Noun)
 System + -ic → Systemic
```

**System** is categorized as a word class of nouns which is classified into free morphemes, because it is meaningful and can stand alone without any morpheme attached to it. Meanwhile, suffix -ic is a bound morpheme that is meaningless and requires a free morpheme to make it have a meaning. Moreover, the process of the word-forming produces a word class of adjectives from nouns. The meaning of the word **system** (noun) is a set of things working together as parts of a mechanism or an interconnecting network; a complex whole. Meanwhile, as an adjective, **systemic** means relating to a system, especially as opposed to a particular part (Oxford English Dictionary: 2010).

Data 6

**Racial** injustice has been ingrained deeply into local and state governments, and changes must be made there …. (10/07)

A bolded marker in the word **racial** above shows the use of the derivational suffix -ial. According to English Etymology Dictionary (2019), the function of suffix -ial is an element of word-performing that indicates an action, quality, or state to an adjective to form a word class of noun. Based on the data above, **racial** is formed from a base **race** which is attached by a
suffix -ial to make it have a different meaning. The explanation of the process can be seen below:

Adjective

Race

-Noun-

-Racial

The process above shows an adjective that is added by suffix -ial to produce a different word class which is a noun. The base race has a meaning of a group that considers its members based on physical characteristics such as being equal in terms of skin color, eye shape, also by the culture, history and language. Meanwhile, according to the Oxford English Dictionary (2010), racial means relating to major groupings into which humankind is sometimes divided on the basis of physical characteristics or common ancestry. This data shows that suffix -ial is a derivational suffix which is categorized as class changing affixes since it changed the meaning and the word class of the base race.

Data 7

Talked with @zanelowe about @catsmovie + my original song for the film “Beautiful Ghosts” .... (26/10)

Based on the data above, the word original can be divided into two morphemes, those are emotion as a base (free morpheme) which is classified into word class of noun and -al as a derivational suffix (bound morpheme). As a suffix, -al is not only used as a suffix forming nouns from verbs. However, it also can be used as a suffix forming an adjective from a noun, then it refers to ‘of, like, related to, pertaining to’. The further explanation is analysed below:

Adjective

Origin

-Noun-

-Original

Although origin is categorized as free morpheme that has been
meaningful and does not require any suffixes attached to it. However, in the other case, *origin* still requires a bound morpheme that is suffix *-al* as a tool to change the word class of a noun that becomes an adjective and the meaning of the base itself. The meaning of the word *origin* is the point or place where something begins, arises, or is derived. After being attacked by a suffix *-al*, then it becomes *original* which means presenting or existing from the beginning, first or earliest. It can also be interpreted as something that is created personally by a particular artist, writer, musician, etc and not by copying. Accordingly, the word *original* (adjective) which is derived from the base *origin* (noun) not only changes the meaning but also the word class. Thus, this analysis is categorized as class changing affixes.

**CONCLUSION**

In this article, the writer found 61 words that are attached by derivational affixes which are focused on adjectives derived from nouns on the twitter account of Taylor Swift. The affixes that are only found in this research are only suffixes, while prefixes and infixes were not found in forming nouns to adjectives. Based on the analysis, there are 7 types of suffixes that have been found such as suffix *-y, -full, -less, -ous, -ic, -al, -ial*. Accordingly, the total number of suffix *-y* that were found are 7 words (11.48%), suffix *-ful* are 13 (21.31%), suffix *-less* are 17 (27.87%), there are only 3 of suffix *-ous* (4.92%), suffix *-ic* are also 3 words (4.92%), suffix *-ial* are 11 (18.03%), and the last data is suffix *-al* with the total are 7 (11.48%). Furthermore, suffix *-less* is the most occurrence of derivational suffixes based on the data source with the total of data where found are 17. Meanwhile, based on the data, the morphological process to form word class adjectives from nouns in derivational affixes by adding or attaching those suffixes to the root or base where the affixes also change the meaning of the word class.

**REFERENCES**


