

DERIVATIONAL AND INFLECTIONAL AFFIXES IN THE SONG LYRICS ON THE PLAYLIST TODAY'S TOP HITS ON SPOTIFY

Hariman Rahmadani ^{a)}, Ni Made Widisanti S ^{a*)}, Sari Rejeki ^{a)}

^{a)} Universitas Pakuan, Bogor, Indonesia

^{*)} Email correspondence: arimanr50@gmail.com

Article history: accepted: January 03, 2022 revised: February 02, 2022 approved: March 01, 2022

ABSTRACT

This research is aimed to describe the process of derivational and inflectional affixes in the song lyrics on the Playlist Today's Top Hits Spotify and to analyze the most dominant and productive types of derivational and inflectional affixes on the playlist. The result of this study shows 268 words consist of derivational and inflectional affixes. Derivational affixes contain 59 words, with the process: Verb to Noun, Adjective to Noun, Adjective to Adverb, Verb to Adjective, Noun to Adjective, Noun to Verb, Verb to Verb, Adjective to Adjective, and Noun to Noun. Inflectional affixes consist of 209 words, with the process: -s or -es plural, -ing (progressive), -s third singular person, -ed past tense, -er (comparative), -est (superlative), -en (past participle), and 's (possessive). The most dominant and productive types of derivational and inflectional affixes are derivational suffixes and inflectional suffixes. Comparing the affixation process derivationally and inflectionally, the inflectional affix process is the most productive in the process of affixation.

Keywords: Derivational; inflectional; affix; song lyrics.

I. BACKGROUND

In learning a new language, it is important to learn the rules of the language. One way of mastering the grammatical rules is by learning the form of words, how words evolve, and also their meaning. This phenomenon in a language is examined in morphology. The word morphology is derived from the word *morf* which means 'shape' or 'form'. While *Logi* means 'knowledge'. Morphology in linguistics refers to the mental system involved in word formation or the branch of linguistics that deals with words, their internal structure, and how they are formed. The morphological process or word-formation deals with the form and grammatical meaning. A major aspect of morphology is the analysis of affixation, the process of a word formed by attaching an affix to the base. According to Aronoff and Fudeman (in Sunardi: 2012), in general, words in English are formed inflectionally and derivationally.

This research is aimed to describe the process of derivational and inflectional affixes **II.** in the song lyrics on the Playlist Today's Top

Hits Spotify and analyzes the most dominant and productive types of derivational and inflectional affixes on the playlist.

Spotify is a digital music, podcast, and video service that gives you access to millions of songs and other content from creators all over the world. The mission is to unlock the potential of human creativity, by allowing a million creative artists to live off their art and billions of fans the opportunity to enjoy and be inspired by it. On Spotify, Today's Top Hits has the most followers. The hit songs from millennial musicians have been included on the playlist Today's Top Hits. This playlist can be a fun medium for the young generation who want to learn English through songs. Since the platform is massive, and song lyrics are also a popular medium to learn English it is of interest to research the process of derivational and inflectional affixes in the song lyrics on the Playlist Today's Top Hits Spotify and to analyze the most dominant and productive types of derivational and inflectional affixes on the playlist.

II. RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the descriptive qualitative method is used. To analyze the data, the researcher uses the identical method to the dividing-key factors technique. This technique involves the researcher's competence in selecting the data with the determinant. According to Muhammad (2011:239), the process includes mental, depending on intuition, and using theoretical knowledge.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The data that will be analyzed in this research are words in the 18 song lyrics on the playlist Today's Top Hits Spotify. There are 268 words overall in the song lyrics, but only several that represent the morphological process will be shared here. Data 1-6 are derivational affixes that show a change in grammatical classes. Data 7-9 are derivational affixes that do not cause a change in grammatical classes and data 10-11 are the process of inflectional affixes.

Data 1

Fill me up with **confidence** (lyrics from the song; Monster)

The word *confidence* is a noun. *Confidence* is derived from the word *confide* (verb). The change occurs because there is a derivational affixation process by attaching the suffix *-ence* to its base (*confide* + *-ence*). The word *confides* according to A.S. Hornby (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 314) means to tell somebody secrets and personal information that you do not want other people to know. The word *confidence* means the feeling that you can trust, believe in, and be sure about the abilities or good qualities of somebody/something (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 314).

Based on the explanation above, the words *confide* and *confidence* has a different lexical identity. Not only the meaning changes but also the lexical category.

Data 2

Made some bad moves tryna act cool, upset by their **jealousy** (lyrics from the song; Monster)

The word *jealousy* is a noun. It comes from the base word *jealous* (adjective). The process involving this word is derivation. By adding the suffix *-y* (*jealous* + *-y*), the word becomes *jealousy*. The word *jealous* means feeling angry or unhappy because somebody you like or love is showing interest in somebody else (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 831). The word *jealousy* on the other hand refers to a feeling of being jealous (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 831).

Based on the explanation above, the words *jealous* and *jealousy* belongs to two different word classes. Though there is only a small difference in adding the suffix *-y*, the meaning of the word is different. The derivational suffix process causes the changing of lexical category and meaning.

Data 3

Can't believe it, gotta thank God that I'm livin' **comfortably** (lyrics from the song; Lemonade)

The word *comfortably* is an adverb. Analyzing further, the base word is *comfort* (noun). It is attached by a derivational suffix *-able* (*comfort* + *-able*), so it changes into the word *comfortable* (adjective). Then, the base *comfortable* is added by a derivational suffix *-y* (*comfortable* + *-y*), so it forms into the word *comfortably* (adverb). The word *comfort* means the state of being physically relaxed and free from pain; the state of having a pleasant life, with everything that you need (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 296). Whereas, the word *comfortable* means making you feel physically relaxed; pleasant to wear, sit on, etc. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 296). Furthermore,

comfortably means (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 296).

Based on the explanation above, the derivational suffix causes the change in the lexical identity. The meanings of the words are also slightly different.

Data 4

We're on **different** lines, so I (Lyrics from the song; Therefore I Am)

The word *different* derives from the word *differ* (verb). It is attached by the derivational suffix *-ent* (*differ* + *-ent*) which changes to the word *different* (adjective). The word *differ* means to be different from somebody/something (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 420). While the word *different* means not the same as somebody/something; not like somebody/something else. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 421).

Based on the explanation above, the derivational suffix process changes the word class and also the meaning.

Data 5

The **milky** way, we're renegading (Lyrics from the song; Levitating)

The word *milky* is an adjective with the word process as follow; it is originally from the base word *milk* (noun) and is attached by a derivational suffix *-y* (*milk* + *-y*). The word *milk* means the white liquid produced by cows, goats, and some other animals as food for their young and used as a drink by humans (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 971). While the word *milky* means made of milk; containing a lot of milk (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 972).

Based on the explanation above, the words *milk* and *milky* are of different lexical categories. *Milk* is a noun, while *milky* is an adjective. Though the two words look identical

the meaning is not. Again, it is evident that derivational suffix causes a change in the lexical identity.

Data 6

I try to **replace** it with city lights (Lyrics from the song; Prisoner)

The word *replace* derives from the word *place* (noun). It is attached by the derivational prefix *re-* (*re-* + *place*). The word *place* means a particular position, point, or area (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 1153). The word *replace* means to remove somebody or something and put another person or thing in their place (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 1294).

Data 7

Rearrange the pieces just to fit me with the rest, yeah (lyrics from the song; Monster)

The word *rearrange* (verb) derives from the word *arrange* (verb). By attaching the prefix *re-* (*re-* + *arrange*), shows derivational process. The word *arrange* means to plan or organize something in advance. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 69). The word *rearrange* means to change the position or order of things; to change your position (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 1266).

Based on the explanation, the derivational affix process does not always change the word class, like the words in *arrange* and *rearrange*, but, still, the meaning of the words are not the same.

Data 8

Know my love **infinite** nothing I wouldn't do (lyrics from the song; Positions)

The word *infinite* is an adjective. It derives from the base word *finite* (adjective).

The process involves adding *-in* (*in-* + *finite*), to produce the word *infinite*. The word *finite* means having a definite limit or fixed size (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 577). While the word *infinite* means very great; impossible to measure (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 797).

Based on the explanation, the derivational prefix process causes the change of lexical identity. Though the two words are in the same lexical category, they differ semantically.

Data 9

Wish I were **Heather** (lyrics from the song; Heather)

The word *heather* is a noun derived from the base word *heath* (noun). By attaching *-er* (*heath* + *-er*) the word becomes *heather*. The word *heath* means a large area of open land that is not used for farming and is covered with rough grass and other small wild plants (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 721). Whereas the word *heather* means a low wild plant with small purple, pink or white flowers, that grows on hills and areas of wild open land (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 721). It is shown here, that although the two words are of the same word class (noun), the derivational suffix process causes the change in the lexical identity and meaning.

Data 10

I had big **dreams** of doin' shows and making **memories** (lyrics from the song; Monster)

Two words will be analyzed in the song lyrics above; *dreams* and *memories*. The words are derived from the base words *dream* and *memory*. The process involving these words is; the inflectional suffixes process; attaching *-s* and *-es* (*dream* + *-s*) and (*memory* + *-es*). The words *dreams* and *memories* can also be categorized as nouns. The word *dream* means a

series of images, events, and feelings that happen in your mind while you are asleep (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 462). The word *memory* means the process of taking in information from the world around us, processing it, storing it, and later recalling that information (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 959).

Based on the explanation above, the inflectional suffix process does not change the word class and meaning.

Data 11

I'm just **hoping** I don't repeat history (in a song lyric Position)

The word *hoping* derives from the word *hope* (verb). The inflectional suffix process is involved by adding the suffix *-ing* (*hope* + *-ing*). The word *hope* means to want something to happen and think that it is possible (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2015: 750).

Based on the explanation, the words *hope* and *hoping* do not cause the change in word class or the meaning.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that there are 268 affixation processes in the 18 song lyrics on the playlist Today's Top Hits Spotify. There are 59 derivational affixes; 6 prefixes and 53 suffixes. The derivational affix process is divided into two: derivational affixes that change grammatical with the process: Verb to Noun (11 words), Adjective to Noun (6 words), Adjective to Adverb (10 words), Verb to Adjective (12 words), Noun to Adjective (7 words), Noun to Verb (4 words) and derivational affixes do not cause the change of grammatical classes, with the process: Verb to Verb (1 word), Adjective to Adjective (7 words) Noun to Noun (1 word). The affixes that can be found are: prefixes: *re-*, *in-*, *un-*, and the suffixes are: *-ence*, *-y*, *-city*, *-ness*, *-ly*, *-ed*, *-ent*,

-ing, -en, -size, -meant -er, -ion, -al, -or, and –less.

There are 209 inflectional affixes seen in the data, with the affixation process: -s or –es plural 67 words, -ing (progressive) 75 words, -s third singular person 21 words, -ed past tense 34 words, -er (comparative) 8 words, -est (superlative) 2 words, -en (past participle) 1 word and ‘s (possessive) also 1 word.

The affixation process in this research shows that the most dominant and productive type of derivational affixes is derivational suffixes and only a few are prefixes. The most dominant and productive type of inflectional affixes is inflectional suffixes. Between the derivational and inflectional affixes process, the most dynamic process is affixed.

REFERENCES

Apa Itu Spotify? (n.d.). Retrieved from Spotify: <https://support.spotify.com/id/article/what-is-spotify/>

Aronoff, M., & Fudeman, K. (2011). *What is Morphology?* Chichester: Blackwell Publishing Ltd.

Chaer, A. (2014). *Linguistik Umum*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.

Echols, J. M., & Shadily, H. (2014). *Kamus Inggris Indonesia*. Jakarta: PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama.

Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2014). *An Introduction to Language*. Boston: Wadsworth.

Hornby, A. S. (2015). *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Muhammad. (2011). *Metode Penelitian Bahasa*. Sleman: Ar-Ruzz Media.