

DERIVATION AND INFLECTION ON SELENA GOMEZ  
SONG LYRICS IN REVIVAL ALBUM

**Edarmawati Halawa**

Prodi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, FKIP Universitas Nias Raya  
(edarmawati.halawa99@gmail.com)

**Abstract**

This study was designed by using descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data because it explains derivation and inflection affixes that found on Selena Gomez Song Lyrics in Revival Album. This study aimed to find out the derivation and inflection affixes on Selena Gomez song lyric in Revival Album also to describe the function of each derivation and inflection affixes found. The data was collected by using documentation. The result of this study there are two types of affix were used. They were prefix and suffix. There is no infix was used. Derivational prefix which is found *-re*. Meanwhile, derivational suffixes which are found, they are *-ed, -ly, -ness, -tion, -ion, -cal, -ful, -er, -ity* and *-al*. The functions of derivational affixes consist of noun forming, adverb forming, adjective forming, and verb forming. On the other hand inflectional suffixes consists of *-s, -ing, -ed*. The function of inflectional suffixes consist of third singular person marker, past tense marker, progressive marker, and plural marker. The mostly used of inflection affixes was suffix *-ing* functioned as progressive marker. Based on the finding, it is concluded that learn derivation and inflection affixes can helps learners create a new words by adding prefix and suffix. In conclusion, derivation affixes occur to create new word from existing word in two ways, they can change the meaning of word or the word class. And inflection affixes occur not to used to produce new words in the language, but rather to indicate aspects of the grammatical function of word. The suggestion from researcher to isto study more about the derivation and inflection affixes not only from the book but also from another sources like songs, movies subtitle, etc. And suggests the English learner should learn derivation and inflection affixes because from this affixes can change the part of speech and also create a new meaning that can improve their vocabulary.

**Key Words:** *Derivation; Inflection; Affixes; Song Lyrics*

**Abstrak**

Penelitian ini dirancang dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk menganalisis data karena menjelaskan derivasi dan infleksi afiks yang terdapat pada Lirik Lagu Selena Gomez dalam Revival Album. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui derivasi dan infleksi afiks pada lirik lagu Selena Gomez di Revival Album serta mendeskripsikan fungsi dari masing-masing afiks derivasi dan infleksi yang ditemukan. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menggunakan dokumentasi. Hasil dari penelitian ini ada dua jenis afiks yang digunakan. Mereka adalah awal dan akhiran. Tidak ada infiks

yang digunakan. Awalan turunan yang ditemukan –re. Sedangkan sufiks turunan yang ditemukan adalah –ed,-ly,-ness,-tion,-ion,-cal.-ful,-er,-ity dan -al. Fungsi afiks derivasi on alter diri dari pembentukan kata benda, pembentukan kata keterangan, pembentukan kata sifat, dan pembentukan kata kerja. Di sisi lain sufiks infleksional terdiri dari -s,-ing, -ed. Fungsi sufiks infleksional alter diri dari penanda orang ketiga tunggal, penanda bentuk lampau, penanda progresif, dan penanda jamak. Afiks infleksi yang paling banyak digunakan adalah sufiks –ing yang berfungsi sebagai penanda progresif. Berdasarkan temuan, disimpulkan bahwa pembelajaran derivasi dan infleksi afiks dapat membantu pembelajar membuat kata baru dengan menambahkan awalan dan akhiran. Kesimpulannya, afiks derivasi terjadi untuk membuat kata baru dari kata yang sudah ada dengan dua cara, yaitu dapat mengubah arti kata atau kelas kata. Dan imbuhan infleksi terjadi bukan untuk digunakan untuk menghasilkan kata baru dalam bahasa, melainkan untuk menunjukkan aspek fungsi gramatikal kata. Saran dari peneliti untuk mempelajari lebih lanjut tentang derivasi dan infleksi afiks tidak hanya dari buku tetapi juga dari sumber lain seperti lagu, subtitle film, dll. Dan menyarankan pelajar bahasa Inggris untuk mempelajari afiks derivasi dan infleksi karena dari ini afiks dapat berubah. Bagian dari pidato dan juga menciptakan makna baru yang dapat meningkatkan kosa kata mereka.

**Kata Kunci:** *Derivasi; Infleksi; Afiks; Lirik Lagu*

## **Introduction**

Language is the tool for human to communicate and interact with others. It means that language is the way for human to express or deliver the message. Language can be understood by listeners and speakers, since it has certain patterns that are known by both of them. Linguistics is the scientific study of language. There are some aspects of linguistics, they are phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. In this study, the researcher focused on morphology.

Morphology is the study of words, how they are formed, and their relationship to other words in the same language. It analyzes the structure of words and parts of words such as stems, root words, prefixes, and suffixes. Morphology also looks at parts of speech, intonation and stress, and the ways context can change a word's pronunciation and meaning. According to

Lieber (2009:2) "Morphology is the study of word formation, including the ways new words are coined in the languages of the world, and the way forms of words are varied depending on how they're used in sentences".

A word is combination of letters. According to Lieber (2009:3) "A word is something small that means something". It means that we can define word as one or more morphemes that can stand alone in a language. Words may of course consist of more than two morphemes. We can communicate with each other because of meaning in every word. The concept of word is usually distinguished from that of a morpheme, which is the smallest unit of speech which has a meaning, even if it will not stand on its own. Word in language that consist of one element of meaning which is morpheme.

Morpheme is the smallest unit of language that has its own meaning. There

are two types of morphemes including free morpheme and bound morpheme. A free morpheme is one morpheme that may stand alone in a language, without requiring any other morphemes. For instance, cat, book, happy, etc..can occur on its own as a word. Whereas, bound morphemes is morpheme that can not stand alone as a single word, but must attached to free morpheme. bound morpheme attach at the beginning, the end, in the middle, or both at the beginning and end of a word. The set of morphemes that are on bound category are divided into two types: namely derivation and inflection morphemes.

Derivation is the process of adding affixes to a base word and it can change the meaning or the word class. When derivational morpheme is added to the base of a word, it can result into a change in the part of speech or grammatical category of that word. for instance, when the suffix –ness is added to adjective ‘happy’, the adjective ‘happy’ become the noun ‘happiness’. While, inflection is the process of adding affix to a base word does not change either the meaning or the word class but change its form according to grammar rules. For example, the –s morpheme attached to the word “likes” indicates the present tense for singular person.

The way to increase and enrich vocabulary, language users need to learned morphology, especially derivation and inflection. The derivation and inflection are not only found in the daily conversation but also in the literary works like poems, song lyrics, novels, movies, etc. However, this research is interested in analyzing song lyrics.

Song lyric is one of literary works and it is has meaning. Song lyric contains word and language that expose the author’s thoughts and feeling. So many people in this world like to listen of song. Listening song is one of the good way to learn the English language because songs can be easily remembered and also easily learned vocabulary. Song is part of music that consist of many lyrics and melody that delivered by the musician about what their feeling which intending to be sung one of it is Selena Gomez.

Selena Gomez is an American singer, actress, and producer. Born and raised in Texas. Years active 2002- present. Selena Gomez has released there album as a solo artist. The albums are: Stars Dance as the first album, released on 2013, the second album is Revival, released on 2015, and the third album is Rare, released on 2020. In this research, researcher chooses Revival album as an object because this album is one of the most popular and bestseller album. Revival album was received positive reviews from music critics, many of whom praised it production, lyrical content, and sultry sound. The album was included in several yearend best music list by publications. Revival album debuted at number one on the Billboard 200, marking Gomez second consecutive number one album in the US, following stars dance (2013). The “Revival Album was released on october 9, 2015 which consists of eleven songs. They are: Revival, Kill ‘em with Kindness, Hand to Myself, Me and the Rhythm, Survivors, Body Heat, Rise, Same Old Love, Sober, Good for You, Camouflage.

Based on the preliminary study, there are many derivation and inflection in

that lyrics are applied and could be analyzed as the following :

- a. *"Kill 'em with Kindness"*
- b. *"What I've learned is so vital"*

The sentences above are the example of the derived and inflected words. Which is part "a" is the example of derivation. "Kill 'em with **Kindness**". The word "kindness" as noun is derived from root of word "kind" as adjective. Root of word kind as adjective is added the suffix -ness becomes kindness as noun. And part "b" is the example of inflection. *"What I've learned is so vital"*. The word "learned" as verb2 actually in past tense is inflected from root of word "learn" as verb1 but actually in present tense.

So, the root of word learn as verb1 is added the suffix -ed becomes learned as verb2. So the grammatical has change already.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher would like to do a research entitled "Derivation and Inflection on Selena Gomez song lyric in Revival album".

Related to the formulation of the problem above, this research aimed

1. Finding the derivation and inflection affixes that are used on Selena Gomez song lyrics in Revival album.
2. Describes the function of each derivation and inflection affixes used on Selena Gomes song lyrics in Revival album.

### Derivation

Derivation is the process of adding affix (suffix) to a base word and it can be changes the meaning or the word class. Certain bound morphemes change the category of the words to which they are attached as these words: kindness, beautiful, darken, singer, and slowly. According to Finegan (2003:43) derivational

morphemes produce new word from existing word in two ways. They can change the meaning of the words such as the word "true versus untrue and paint versus repaint" or they can change a words lexical category such as the words true is an adjective, truly an adverb, truth a noun.

The derivation will list various processes whereby new words are from existing words (or roots), nouns from adjective "beauty from beautiful", adjective from noun "master from masterly", verb from adjective "accept from acceptable" and so on (Booij 2005:52). Derivational is used to form a new word, as with the word happiness and unhappy from happy or arrangement from arrange. A contrast is intended with process of inflection, which uses another kind of affix in order to form variants of the same word, likes walking, walked, and walks.

Mostly, the derivational morphemes are affixes. An affix is a morpheme which only occurs when attached to some other morpheme or morpheme such as a root or stem or base (Katamba, 1993: 44). On the other said affixes are morphemes that cannot stand alone or bound morphemes. English derivational adds morphemes principally by prefixing or suffixing. Not all affixes changes the lexical category of words. Adding the bound morphemes like dis-, re- and un- (disagree, reload, and unsatisfied) to a verb changes the meaning not the lexical category.

For example, agree and disagree are both verb, as are paint and repaint, favorable and unfavorable are both adjectives. Derivational affixes serve as an important means by which new words may be created in English. The characteristics of derivational, as below:

- Change meaning or part of speech e.g. – ment form nouns, such as judgment from verbs such judge.
- Typically indicate semantic relation with the word e.g. the morpheme – full in painful has no particular connection with any other morpheme beyond the word painful.
- Typically occur with only some members of e.g the suffix-hood occurs with just a few nouns, such as brother, knight and neighbor, but not with most other e.g friend, daughter, candle and so on.
- Typically occur before inflectional suffixes e.g in chillier, the derivational suffix –y comes before the inflectional –er.

Based on those previous explanations of derivation, it can be concluded that derivational morpheme is the study of the formation of new words that differ either in syntactic category or in meaning from their bases. Thus, a derivational morpheme is an affix added form of a word. Moreover, a derivational morpheme can either change the meaning or the category of the original word, forming new words. For example, pure to impure, leaf to leaflet (change in grammatical category). Help (verb) to helper (noun), logic (noun) to logical (adjective) → change the word class from base.

### Inflection

Inflection the process of adding affix to a base word does not change either the meaning or the word class but change its form according to grammar rules. According to Yule (2006:69) inflectional morpheme are not used to produce new words in the language, but rather to

indicate aspects of the grammatical function of a word. Inflectional morphemes are used to show if a word is plural or singular, if it is past tense or not, and if it is a comparative or possessive form. Whereas, according to Lieber (2009: 7) When we change the form of a word so that it fits in a particular grammatical context, we are concerned with what linguists call inflection.

Inflectional word formation is word formation that expresses grammatical distinctions like number (singular vs. plural); tense (present vs. past); person (first, second, or third); and case (subject, object, possessive), among others. English has relatively little inflection. We create different forms of nouns according to number (Wombat to wombats); we mark the possessive form of a noun with –'s or –s' (the wombat's eyes). We have different form of verbs for present and past and for present and past participles (sing, sang, singing, sung) and we use a suffix –s to mark the third person singular of a verb (she sings), (Lieber 2009:7). They only have certain grammatical function. There is no inflectional prefix in English.

### Research Method

The researcher used qualitative method with descriptive approach to analyze the data that indicated to derivation and inflection on song lyricson Selena Gomes song lyrics in Revival album. Qualitative research involves collecting and analyzing non-numerical data (e.g., text, video, or audio) to understand concepts, opinions, or experiences. According to Auerbach and Silverstein (2003:3) "Qualitative researchis research that involves analyzing and interpreting texts and interviews in order to discover



meaningful patterns descriptive of a particular phenomenon”.

In this research, the researcher used documentation and collects the data mainly from the songs of Selena Gomez's. There are some procedures that researcher used to collect the data, those were:

1. Downloading the lyrics of Selena Gomez' songs which is refers into Revival album from internet.
2. Reading and comprehensively to know whether it contains derivation and inflection affixes.
3. Selecting those words which has been attached by derivation and inflection affixes.
4. Analyzing those words according to their categories whether derived and inflected words.

After collecting the data, researcher analyzed them. The data analysis in this research was content analysis. In analyzing the data, one of numerous research method used is content analysis. Content analysis is the study of content which refers to the meaning, contexts and intentions contained in messages or text. Content analysis is a research tool used to analyze the data which determine the presence of certain words or concepts within texts or sets of texts.

In analyzing the data, there are three steps flows of activity. They were data condensation, data display, and drawing and verifying conclusions (Miles, Huberman & Saldana, 2014 :10-11).

#### 1. Data Reduction

Data reduction not something separate from analysis, is part of analysis. Data condensation refers to the process of selecting, focusing simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that appear in the

full corpus (body) of written-up field notes, interview transcripts, documents and other empirical material. By condensing, we are making data stronger. In this stage, researcher was select the data needed which contains the derivation and inflection categories. Then, the researcher was classify the data for each category. The purpose of this activity was to make researcher easier to classify data.

#### 2. Data Display

The second step is data display. Generally, a display is and organized compressed assembly of information that allows conclusion drawing and action. Data display helps us to understand what is happening and to do something.

After the researcher got the data needed, researcher displays the data in a table form to make researcher easier in drawing conclusions.

#### 3. Conclusion Drawing and Verification

The third stream of analysis activity is conclusion drawing and verification. From the start of data collection, the qualitative analyst interprets what things means by noting patterns, explanations, casual flows, and propositions.

### Finding and Discussion

From the result of an analysis of the song lyrics of Selena Gomez's in Revival album, the finding of this research reveals various kinds of affixes and the function of derivation and inflection that occur on song lyrics of Selena Gomez's Revival Album. The data in the table of data result above shows that there are two types of affixes which are used on song lyrics in Selena Gomez's Revival Album. Those types are prefix and suffix. Additionally, there is no

infix on song lyrics in Selena Gomez's Revival Album.

In derivational affixes, prefix and suffix occur on song lyrics in Selena Gomez's Revival Album. Prefix is placed to the front of root or base of word and suffix is added to the back part of root or base of word. Types of prefix which is found *re-*. Suffix which are found *-ed*, *-ly*, *-ness*, *-tion*, *-ion*, *-cal*, *-ful*, *-er*, *-ity* and *-al*.

Suffixes that are found can be divided into four based on what function of new words they form. The first is noun forming. It occurs when the others part of speech such as verb and adjective changes become noun because add suffix *-ion*, *-tion*, *-al*, *-ity* and *-ness*. They give important contribution in deriving English noun word. The second is adjective forming suffix. It occurs when the others part of speech such as verb and noun changes become adjective part of speech. The adjective forming suffix includes *-ful*, *-cal*, and *-er*. These affixes denotes as affixes to form adjective. The third is verb forming suffix that include *-ed*. Verb forming suffix occurs when the others part of speech such as adjective changes to be verb. The fourth is adverb forming suffix *-ly*. Adverb forming suffix occurs when the others part of speech such as verb, adjective, noun changes become adverb. Suffix *-ly* denotes as adverb maker because suffix *ly* change the part of speech adjective to be adverb.

Knowing functions of those suffixes will help the reader of the lyrics of Selena Gomez's song to know the meaning of words to which those suffixes are added. While, Prefixes are not usually changes the words class of the root or the base words, but it is added to make a new word with the same word class and different meaning. Kind of prefix which is found were *re-*. The

process sometimes changes the phonological aspect of the word such as the word *reborn* is formed by adding *re-* to the base *born*. From the table of result, the most common used of affixes was suffixes.

On the other hand, inflection refers to the suffix that does not create new words, meaning or form but giving the extra grammatical information on the root words so that they fit into grammatical context. Types of suffix which are found *-es/s*, *-s*, *-ing*, *-d*, *-ed*. Suffixes that were found can be divided into five based on what function of words they form. They are third singular person marker, past tense marker, progressive marker and plural marker.

Considering the findings based on the data analysis done by the researcher, this section presented the discussion of the research findings. In this research, there was problem statement and the discussion was only focused on it. As mentioned before, the aim of this research was to describe the derivational and inflectional affixes that are found on Selena Gomez song Lyrics in Revival Album and find out the function of derivational and inflectional affixes that are found on Selena Gomez's song Lyrics in revival Album. This research was carried out based on Lieber (2009:35), the types of derivational affixes divided into two types. They are prefix and suffix. And Lieber (2009:7), when we change the form of a word so that it fits in a particular grammatical context, we are concerned with what linguistics call inflection.

Based on the result of research finding, the findings would be compared to the theories used in the literature review of this research, in analyzing the data to find out the kinds of affixes used in the English song, the theory of Lieber(2009:35)classified that affixes consists of prefix and suffix.

However, the theory was similar with the findings in this research that had been done by the researcher where those affixes were exist in Selena Gomez's song lyrics especially in Revival album. Moreover, compare the study with related research conducted by Setyowati (2014), the result show that derivational affixes that found are consists of *-er, -en, -ing, -ly, -ment, -ness*. While inflectional affixes that consist of *-d, -s, -ed, -ing, -es, -er, and -est*. And the mostly occur in his research was derivational suffixes. And it was different with this finding because the mostly occur in this research was inflectional suffixes *-ing* which is functioned as progressive marker. Second, proposed by Setyawan (2014), the result show that derivational and affixes that found are consists of prefix and suffix. Derivational prefix *pro-, dis* and *re-*, and then suffixes *-cy, -ful, -ion, -ed, -dom, -ly, -ness, -acy, -th, -ical* and *-less* and its classified based on the part of speech.

Furthermore, the result of this research also found both prefix and suffix in Selena Gomez's Revival Album, and the process of attaching both prefix and suffix to the base word is called affixation which is divided in two kinds of process according to their influence on the base words, they are derivation and inflection. The researcher found that derivation refers to the prefix and suffix that can create new words, new meaning from the existing base word. Most base words were changed whenever the derivational affixes were attached to the base, such as from noun to adjective, adjective to adverb, verb to noun and so on depends on their functions

On the other hand, inflection refers to the suffix that does not create new word, meaning or form but giving the extra

grammatical information on the base words so that they fit into grammatical context. Additionally, there are eight terms of inflectional suffixes actually but only five which found on that Selena Gomez's Song lyrics, they are third singular person marker, past tense marker, progressive marker and plural marker. Whenever the inflectional suffix was attached to the base words, the base words does not change rather than to fit the grammatical context.

### **Closing**

Based on the finding, it is concluded that the derivation and inflection affixes becomes one of the productive ways in forming English words. The mostly affixes used on Selena Gomez song lyrics in Revival album was inflectional suffixes. The base or root to which affixes are attached can be originated from English and other language. Those affixes can derived and inflected new words with various kinds of part of speech, meaning and grammar structural. This will enrich the language source for English language users.

From the statement above, it can proof based on the result of this research, there are two types of affixes used, they are prefix and suffix. Types of derivational prefix which are used is *re-*. While suffix are used, they are *-ation, -ly, -ion, -ed, -cal, -al, -ful, -ness -ity* and *-er*. These affixes can be used to derived noun, verb, adverb, and adjective. While types of inflectional suffix used, they are, *-s/es, -ing, -d/ed*. These suffixes can be used to inflected third singular person, past tense, past participle, progressive, plural and possessive. Both derivational and inflectional suffixes was formed and used by attaching them to the existing root words.

After concluding the research, the researcher proposed three suggestions for



English Learner, English teachers, and next researchers are presented below.

1. To English learner

The English learner are suggested to study more the derivational and inflectional words not only from the book but also from another sources likes song lyric, movie subtitle, movie, etc. Learn derivational and inflectional affixes can helps learners create a new word by adding prefix and suffix.

2. To English teachers

The researcher also suggests the teacher to teach about English affixes to the students well. Those affixes should be taught by separating the root and the affixes to facilitate the students to comprehend the process of forming and using those affixes both derivation and inflection.

3. To next researcher

For the next researcher, the writer suggested to use different sources to find more of types or pattern of derivational and inflectional affixes.

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