

Indonesian prefix *ter-*

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Abstract – This study deals with finding and describing the meaning and function of Indonesian prefix *ter-* in the investigation report. This study applied descriptive qualitative research to find out the data. The analysis was conducted by applying theory proposed by Kridalaksana (2007) about prefix *ter-*. After investigating the data it was found that the prefix *ter-* can be used to form verb, adjective and noun. The most frequently form found in the data is verb. These words express different meaning, such as state of affair (stative) which does not involve any action, as found in the verb *terletak* (situated), accidental or uncontrolled action, such as the verb *terkunci* (locked), superlative adjective which provided superlative meaning on the adjective as found in adjective *terakhir* (the last) and also legal term such as *tersangka* (the suspect) which shows that prefix *ter-* can be used to form the actor who does the specific action which is related to the law.

Keyword: prefix *ter-*, meaning function, verb, noun, adjective

1. Introduction

Language is the means of communication which comprises the use of words. Word as a single distinct meaningful element of writing can denote an essential part of linguistic knowledge and make up a component of grammars, and morphology. Morphology is part of linguistics that focused on the study of words, internal structure and meanings. Morphology can be defined as the part of linguistics which deals with the study of words, their internal structure and their meanings. It is also focused on how the language users understand complex words and invent new lexical items. Morphemes in morphology are the smallest units that carry meaning or fulfil some grammatical functions. A word can comprise one or more than one morphemes.

Indonesian words are formed by combining root words with affixes and other combining forms. Kridalaksana (2007) defined prefixes as the affixes that added in front of the root word. Prefixes which are combined with the root words can be used to

form word classes, such as verb, adjective, noun, numeral, etc. many Indonesian words are combination of root words and prefix to create a completely different meaning. Knowing types of affixes and how are they used is the key in understanding the meanings of the words. There are numbers of prefix used in Indonesian including prefix *ter-*. It can be combined with verbs, adjectives, and nouns to create a new word, either in similar word class or different one. *This* study focused on the analysis of prefix *ter-* in different word classes found in the data source to find out the meaning and function of the words that had prefix *ter-* on it.

According to Kridalaksana (2007) affixation is a process of changing a lexeme into complex words. Affixation process occurs when a bound morpheme is placed on a free morpheme orderly. In addition, Chaer (2003) stated that affix is an element that can change the meaning, types and function of a basic word or basic form. Affixation can be done by adding prefix or suffix. Prefix is a bound morpheme which is added in the front base. One of Indonesian affixes is prefix, prefix is an affix that is placed in the front of basic word, Indonesian prefix such as prefix *di-*, *ke-* and *ter-* has function to to make verbs in form of passive voice. Since this study focused on the used of prefix *ter-*, here are some function of prefix *ter-* according to Kridalaksana (2007).

1. Verb forming, prefix *ter-* can be used to form a verb when it is attached in front of the based word/root,
2. Adjective-forming, attaching prefix *ter-* in front of the based word or root can make an adjective,
3. Noun forming, prefix *ter-* can be used to form a noun.

2. Method

This study is a descriptive qualitative research. With an investigation report as the data source. The data source used legal term which has specific composition and word choices. 50 pages of investigation report were chosen randomly and read carefully in order to find out words with prefix *ter-*. The data were collected by observation method and supported by note taking technique. It was done by reading the investigation reports carefully to find out Indonesian words with prefix *ter-*, after that, the words were noted down and classified based on the word class. The data were analyzed by using the theory proposed by Kridalaksana (2007).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Forming a Verb by prefix *ter-* addition

Prefix *ter-* is identical with verbs. Verbs can be derived from different kinds of roots, such as verb, noun, and adjective. Verb forms as the result of prefix *ter-* addition are the most frequent variation found in the data as follows.

Table 1 Prefix *ter-*

Prefix <i>ter-</i> + Root (verb)	New form (verb)
ter+tutup	tertutup
ter+buka	terbuka
ter+buat	terbuat
ter+catat	tercatat

ter+sebut	tersebut
ter+libat	terlibat
Prefix <i>ter-</i> + Root (noun)	New form (verb)
ter+letak	terletak
ter+kunci	terkunci

There are six verbs derived from the addition of prefix *ter-* to the the basic verb. Those verbs are *tertutup* (close), *terbuka* (open) and *terbuat* (made of), *tercatat* (noted), *tersebut* (mentioned), and *terlibat* (mentioned). The data showed that the words which are formed by prefix *ter-* mostly in form of verbs. These verbs are stative verbs which refer to a state than an action.

1. The word *tertutup* (closed) is formed by the addition of prefix *ter-* to the root verb *tutup* (close). The verb *tertutup* is a stative verb which is expressed state of affair that is something is closed. it means that something is in the state of closed.
2. The verb *terbuka* (opened) is formed by the addition of prefix *ter-* to the root verb *buka* (open). This verb is also a stative verb used to express that something is opened.
3. *Terbuat* (made) is also another stative verb derived from the addition of prefix *ter-* in front of the based verb *buat* (make). This verb is also used to express the state of affair that something is made of certain thing.
4. *Tersebut* (mentioned) is also another stative verb found in the data. This verb consists of prefix *ter-* and verb *sebut* (mention). This verb is used to express the state of being mentioned.
5. *Terlibat* (involved) is a stative verb which consists of prefix *ter-* and verb *libat*.

This stative verb is also can be used to express the stative condition that is something or someone is involved on certain situation. The verbs above are formed by adding prefix *ter-* to the root (verb). All of the verbs are the stative verbs which are used to express the state of affair conveying actions which are not involving any actor. Since all of these words are derived from a verb these verbs showed inflectional process. These stative verbs showed that the action perform on each verbs as the state results. For example the word *tercatat* (noted) is the result of the state of being noted. These verbs can also be found in the sentences in form of passive sentences.

The stative verb can also derive from a noun, there is a one example found in the data source that is the word *terletak* (situated). The bound morpheme *ter-* to the free morpheme *letak*. The root word *letak* (location) is in form of noun. The stative verb *terletak* derives from the addition of prefix *ter-* on the noun *letak*. This verb is in form of stative verb presented the state of affair as there is no action involved in the context. This verb showed derivational process since this verb involved word class changing from noun to verb by the addition of prefix *ter-*.

The second types of verb found in data is the accidental verb. This verb presented a variety of uncontrolled, unintended, accidental actions depending on the particular context. For example, the word *terkunci* (locked). This verb refers to the accidental action. This verb derives from the noun *kunci* (key) and the addition of prefix *ter-* on this root changes the word class from a noun into a verb.

3.2 Forming a Noun by prefix *Ter-* addition

Table 2

Prefix <i>ter-</i> + Root (verb)	New form (verb)
ter+sangka	tersangka
ter+dakwa	terdakwa

Prefix *ter-* is known as a verbal prefix, however it also can be found in the noun used for legal terms, such as *terdakwa* (accused person) and *tersangka* (the suspect). The word *terdakwa* derives from the verb *dakwa* (accuse) as the root with the addition of prefix *ter-* changes the word class from verb into noun to present the one who accused, that is *terdakwa*. Similar with the word *terdakwa*, *tersangka* (the suspect) is also a noun derives from a verb *sangka* (guess) into a noun, *tersangka* (the suspect). These two nouns are legal term or related with the law and investigation. These nouns are derived from verbs which are also associated with the legal terms.

3.3 Forming an Adjective by prefix *ter-* addition

Table 3 Prefix

Prefix <i>ter-</i> + Root (noun)	New form (adjective)
Ter+akhir	terakhir
Prefix <i>ter-</i> + Root (adjective)	New form (adjective)
Ter+utama	terutama

Prefix *ter-* can be used to form an adjective. This is formed by placing prefix *ter-* before the adjective or another word class, such as noun as found in the data. The adjective found can be used to express the highest degree of something. This form can be used to replace Indonesian superlative word ‘paling’. The superlative word *terakhir* was found in the data source. This word derives from the root *akhir* (end) and received prefix *ter-* to form the superlative adjective *terakhir* (the very last). The addition of prefix *ter-* to the noun *akhir* shows the derivational process which is changed the noun into an adjective.

The second superlative adjective found in the data source was the word *terutama* (superior). This word is derived from an adjective *utama* (main). The addition of prefix *ter-* on this adjective provides superlative value to this word. The word *terutama* is showed the inflectional process since the addition of the prefix *ter-* did not change the word class (root) which is remained as the adjective after the affixation.

4. Conclusion

The addition of prefix *ter-* to the root word can be used to form different types of word classes such as noun, verb and adjectives. Prefix *ter-* is identical with verb because prefix *ter-* is commonly used to form a verb. The addition of prefix *ter-* to the root can convey different meaning such as state of affair (stative), accidental action, superlative adjective and also the subject/actor who does an act and serves as noun.

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