

Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes in Native American Winter Stories on Loe.Org Website

Angelina Kusuma Jelita Mawarni¹, Barli Bram¹

¹Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia

*Correspondence: angelinakusumajm@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research identifies most of the types of derivational and inflectional morphemes. It categorizes the process of derivational and inflectional morphemes in the Native American winter stories on the website that is loe.org. The data consists of 22 derivational morphemes and 57 inflectional morphemes. The method was conducted descriptive qualitative. Results showed that adjective to adverb. Most derivational types occur nine times or 40.90 per cent, followed by the suffix -ly. Meanwhile, the most inflectional type is past tense, which used the suffix -ed occurrences 20 times or 35.08 per cent. The results showed six categories of derivational processes, namely the verb to adjective (23.72%), noun to adjective and noun to adverb (13.63%), adjective to adverb (40.90%), verb to verb and adjective to adjective (4.54%). On the other hand, the six categories of inflectional processes are plural (12.05%), past tense (35.08%), progressive (28.07%), past participle (1.75%), superlative (3.50%), and comparative (10.52%).

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Derivational; Inflectional; Morpheme.

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1. Introduction

Linguistics is the study of language and the description of many languages. Language is made up of form and meaning. According to Nur (2022), phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics are part of linguistics. Furthermore, morphology is a branch of linguistics that deals with words, internal structure, and word formation (Nurjanah & Ma'mun, 2023; Rahman & Weda, 2019; Yaumi et al., 2024). In morphology, there are morphemes, such as root, affix, prefix, and suffix. In this case, many readers and English learners need to be made aware of and understand the use of this morpheme. Therefore, researchers are interested in investigating morphemes further by doing research from Native American Winter Stories on Loe.Org Website.

Gilakjani (2017) stated that morphology, which involves short language words formed by shape and meaning units, can help people acquire language. Morphology refers to the grammatical knowledge related to the words of language. This knowledge is only consciously available to some people. People commonly use dictionaries to facilitate communication between languages. Without words, human beings would not be able to communicate with one another. So, from the definitions given above, it is clear that morphology is the branch of linguistics that deals with the study of words, not just their meaning but their structure.

Furthermore, morphology is related to the sentence, a combination of words that cannot be broken down into a helpful unit because a word is the lowest unit of a sentence. Morphology deals with the formation of words, the invention of new words in the global language, and how the forms of words vary according to context (Yastanti, 2020). The theory of morphology, known as "word formation," explains how words are created by affixing them and how they can be used in innovative ways within a sentence. Morphological analysis breaks down words into their parts, including root, prefix, and suffix. The morphological analysis covers derivational and inflectional processes. The smaller parts are called morphemes. Astuti et al., (2021) stated that a unit of meaning used to construct words can be defined as a morpheme. This means a unit morpheme is the smallest unit that represents a word's definition. According to Erlinawati (2018), the morpheme is a component with a fundamental grammatical function. The fundamental grammatical unit of language is morpheme. It is the smallest meaning element in a language. The morphemes which can stand independently are referred to as free morphemes; those which are not able to stand independently are referred to as bound morphemes. There are a couple of types of bound morphemes: derivational morphemes and inflectional morphemes.

Derivational and inflectional morphemes are the pieces that explore the field of morphology intended to appeal. Morphology refers to the study of "morphemes," language's smallest units of meaning. Fromkin et al., (2013) state that a morpheme represents the fundamental unit of linguistic form and grammatical function. Morphemes are divided into two types: free morphemes and bound morphemes. Free morphemes are morphemes that can stand independently, and bound morphemes are morphemes that cannot stand independently. A bound morpheme must be an affix to a free morpheme. Also called affixes, these are bound morphemes. They are often divided into prefixes, infixes, and suffixes. Two types of bound morphemes are prefixes and suffixes. While a prefix is placed at the front of a word to change a word, it can also change the meaning of a word, such as re-, un-, dis-. A suffix is an addition after a root (stem or base). The suffixes include -s, -est, -ing, -er, -ed, and ly. For example, rabbit, fastest, falling, smaller, rabbit, started, finally.

Hamawand and Matjakovi (2017) found that the inflectional morphemes do not affect the grammatical category or part of speech. For example, small and smaller are equal adjectives. According to Haspelmath (2013), derivational morphemes generally modify the class of the word from the base lexemes, i.e., they transform the sense of a word by changing the categories of the words. Inflectional morphemes and derivational morphemes are not allowed to exist independently since they must be bound to some other morpheme; hence, these are called bound morphemes (Schmid, 2015; Kaharuddin et al., 2024; Youngsun et al., 2024; Indarwati et al., 2023). Adding a root morpheme can change a word's lexical or grammatical category. For example, adding the suffix -ness to the adjective happy makes the word happiness a noun.

According to Critten (2014), derivational morphemes are affixes that can be added to a given word's front (prefixes) or end (suffixes). The result is a change in semantics and a change in structural form. A derivational morpheme changes the part of speech of a base word. It creates a new word by attaching itself to the base (Kolanchery, 2015). As a derivational morpheme, it changes the meaning without changing the grammatical classes or is called a converting or zero derivation Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2011, p. 45, cited in Purwanti, 2020). To show how words are structured, it is necessary not only to identify the individual components of morphemes but also to categorize these components with their respective roles in The sense and purpose of the bigger word (Kalsum et al., 2021; Sugiyarti et al., 2020; Sukmawaty et al., 2022). There are several derivational types: verb to adjective, noun to adjective, noun to adverb, adjective to adverb, verb to verb, and adjective to adjective. Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2014, p. 46) conclude that, like bound morphemes, the inflectional morpheme marks characteristics such as tense, number, and person. Inflectional suffixes establish relationships and affect grammar (Hazen, 2014, p. 185; Andini et al., 2021; Kaharuddin et al., 2023).

Inflectional morphemes are thought to have grammatical functionality. They influence not only individual words but also entire sentences. Allerton (2017, p. 214) stated that the inflectional affixes, such as plural, past, and progressive, preserve the major class of the word while determining the subclass, such as past or plural, for potential agreement with any other word in a sentence. This way, the inflectional morphemes do not modify the base word's part of the sentence. The details of a person, time, and action process are all affected in the sentence. The inflectional morphemes are word formations that neither change nor create new lexemes from the base word. If added to a base word, various affixes do not modify its part of speech or create a new word. Instead, they perform specific functions in the language Aryati et al., (2016, as cited in Yastanti et al., 2021). It refers to words that do not switch parts of speech and do not produce a different word through an inflectional process. Inflectional morphemes are divided into several types by Fromkin et al., (2014). This research has several inflectional types: simple past, continuous, past participle, plural, comparative, and superlative.

The study of morphemes is very important in the context of the above statement. Mastering a language requires a basic understanding of words and morphology, as it directly impacts writing, reading comprehension, and lexical knowledge. To understand the meaning of words, learners should learn morphology, particularly derivational and inflectional morphemes. The researchers are curious to explore and analyze derivational and inflectional morphemes in The Living on Earth Website, Loe.org. To engage in this study, the researchers formulated two research questions. First, what are the most common derivational and inflectional morphemes in Native American winter stories on Loe.org? Second, how are the processes of derivational and inflectional morphemes in Native American winter stories on Loe.org?

2. Methodology

The researchers used a qualitative method to answer the research questions in this section, focusing on the types of derivational and inflectional processes in Native American winter stories on the loe.org website. According to

Agatha, Putra, and Sulatra (2022), qualitative research organizes and analyzes data for patterns or structures. In this case, the researchers classified derivational and inflectional into each table and grouped them into category processes.

In the data collection technique, the researchers used a table to analyze the word parts of the derivative and inflectional. Hammersley (2013) stated that qualitative investigators may use any documentary data, including formal reports, journals, newspapers, maps, photographs, notes, and diary entries, without attempting to quantify their content. The researchers used the Living on Earth website as media to collect derivational and inflectional data types.

The researchers also listened to and read the script from the *loe.org* website and then separated the words into minor parts. There were 22 derivational morphemes and 57 inflectional morphemes were collected from the Living on Earth website. Morphology is attractive for researchers because it can be grouped into categories: process, root, word, prefix, and suffix.

Furthermore, in analyzing the data, researchers used three qualitative analysis steps: reducing data, displaying data, and making conclusions (Ifadloh et al., 2022). This data will be reduced. Then, tables are used to display the data of this research. In addition, the conclusion of this research will be summarized descriptively.

3. Result and Discussions

The results and discussion of the answers to the research questions are provided below.

3.1 Inflectional Data

The separation between sub-headings and sub-subheadings should be numbered as well.

Table 1. Inflectional morpheme

| No | Category Processes | Root | Word | Suffix | |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------|--------|
| 1. | Plural | book | books | -s | |
| | | bottom | bottoms | -s | |
| | | flake | flaks | -s | |
| | | flower | flowers | -s | |
| | | plant | plants | -s | |
| | | rabbit | rabbits | -s | |
| | | seem | seems | -s | |
| | | tree | trees | -s | |
| | Plural | willow | willows | -s | |
| | | winter | winters | -s | |
| | No | Category Processes | Root | Word | Suffix |
| | 2. | Past tense | wood | woods | -s |
| | | | bounce | bounced | -ed |
| | | | call | called | -ed |
| climb | | | climbed | -ed | |
| cover | | | covered | -ed | |
| disappoint | | | disappointed | -ed | |
| explain | | | explained | -ed | |
| happen | | | happened | -ed | |

| | | lift | lifted | -ed |
|----|--------------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| | | look | looked | -ed |
| | | love | loved | -ed |
| | | need | needed | -ed |
| | | please | pleased | -ed |
| | | push | pushed | -ed |
| | | realize | realized | -ed |
| | | record | recorded | -ed |
| | | start | started | -ed |
| | | pass | passed | -ed |
| | | try | tried | -ed |
| | | turn | turned | -ed |
| | | walk | walked | -ed |
| 3. | Prog | argue | arguing | -ing |
| | | begin | beginning | -ing |
| | | change | changing | -ing |
| | | cut | cutting | -ing |
| | | do | doing | -ing |
| | | fall | falling | -ing |
| | | feel | feeling | -ing |
| | | get | getting | -ing |
| | | go | going | -ing |
| | | grow | growing | -ing |
| | | include | including | -ing |
| | | leave | leaving | -ing |
| | | live | living | -ing |
| | | walk | walking | -ing |
| | | watch | watching | -ing |
| | | wonder | wondering | -ing |
| 4. | PP | fall | fallen | -en |
| 5. | Sup | fast | fastest | -est |
| | | tall | tallest | -est |
| No | Category Processes | Root | Word | Suffix |
| 6. | Comp | bet | better | -er |
| | | big | bigger | -er |
| | | forest | foresters | -er |

| | | |
|-------|---------|-----|
| hard | harder | -er |
| run | runners | -er |
| small | smaller | -er |

Based on Table 1 above, the researchers identified inflectional morphemes and the inflectional process, namely plural, past tense, progressive, past participle, superlative, and comparative.

Table 2. Types of inflectional morpheme

| No | Types of inflectional | Data | Percentage |
|--------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | Plural | 12 | 21.05% |
| | Past tense | 20 | 35.08% |
| | Prog | 16 | 28.07% |
| | PP | 1 | 1.75% |
| | Sup | 2 | 3.50% |
| | Comp | 6 | 10.52% |
| Total | | 57 | 100% |

In Table 2, the research found that most frequent inflection is the past tense, occurring 20 times or 35.08 per cent, and the least frequent category is the past participle, appearing one time or 1.75 per cent in the entire data. The past tense is the most frequent because in native American winter stories on the website loe.org many verbs of descriptions exist.

3.2 Derivational Data

Table 3. Derivational morphemes

| No | Category Processes | Root | Word | Prefix | Suffix |
|----|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| 1. | V- Adj | live | living | | -ing |
| | | sing | sing-ing | | -ing |
| | | sleep | asleep | a- | |
| | | satisfy | satisfied | | -ed |
| 2. | N-Adj | beauty | beautiful | | -ful |
| | | interest | interesting | | -ing |
| | | Happy (Adj) | Unhappiness (n) | un- | -ness |
| 3. | N-Adv | deed | indeed | in- | |
| | | stead | instead | in- | |
| | | head | ahead | -a | |
| 4. | Adj- Adv | careful | carefully | | -ly |
| | | bad | badly | | -ly |
| | | final | finally | | -ly |
| | | on | only | | -ly |
| | | real | really | | -ly |
| | | swift | swiftly | | -ly |

| No | Category Processes | Root | Word | Prefix | Suffix |
|----|--------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | Adj-Adv | actual | actually | | -ly |
| | | apparent | apparently | | -ly |
| | | necessary | necessarily | | -ly |
| 5. | Verb | introduce | reintroduce | re- | |
| 6. | Adj | sure | unsure | un- | |

Based on Table 3 above, the researchers identified derivational morphemes and categories of derivational processes: verb to adjective, noun to adjective, noun to adverb, adjective to adverb, verb and noun.

Table 4. Types of derivational morphemes

| No | Types | Data | Percentage |
|--------------|---------|------|------------|
| | V- Adj | 5 | 23.72% |
| | N-Adj | 3 | 13.63% |
| | N-Adv | 3 | 13.63% |
| | Adj-Adv | 9 | 40.90% |
| | V | 1 | 4.54% |
| | Adj | 1 | 4.54% |
| Total | | 22 | 100% |

In Table 4, the research found that the most derivative is Adjectives to adverbs, occurring 9 times or 40.90 per cent. And then noun to adjective, same with noun to adverb 3 times or 13.63 per cent. The last is adjectives and verbs occurring one time or 4.54 per cent of the entire data. The adjective to an adjective is most frequent because the adverb describes how, when, where, or how often something happens. Based on the analyzed results, the research found the categories of inflectional and derivational processes. Here is the explanation of the category processes:

As Kusumawardhani (2015) states, inflectional morphemes are applied to the base language without changing the class of words. It implies that the words to which inflectional morpheme is added have grammar purposes. An inflectional morpheme creates a word that does not modify the word class or meaning. So, an inflectional morpheme is forming words or adding endings that will not transform the word's meaning (Manihuruk, 2022). This category includes six inflectional morphemes: plural, past tense, progressive, past participle, superlative, and comparative. The data on the inflection types are presented in Table 2. Based on the analyzed results, the research found the categories of inflectional and derivational processes. Here is the explanation of the categories processes:

a. Inflection Plural -s

This inflectional morphem -s denotes plurality. It is added as a suffix at the end of base words. Its addition signifies that the noun is plural. It is commonly used in English countable nouns (Rugaiyah, 2018), as in books, seams, flaks, and plants.

b. Past Tense -ed

The inflectional past was added to regular verbs by using -ed to indicate past tense and create a variant of the verb. Saragih et al., (2022) stated that the past tense is used -ed to mark an event that occurred in the past. Ordinary verbs form their past tense by adding -ed or -d in the stem or simple tense, as in climbed, loved, covered, and looked.

c. Progressive -ing

The suffix -ing is used to show progress (Yusuf, 2017) or it can be referred to as the verb -ing. Adding the inflectional suffix -ing at the beginning of the basic form does not alter the meaning and is technically correct. The tense

of the sentences shown is present continuous, as in arguing, beginning, changing, cutting, doing, falling, feeling, getting, going, growing, including, leaving, living, walking, watching, and wondering.

d. Past Participle -en

The suffix –en means participle. In addition to the above suffix, the past participle can change irregularly if the base verb is irregular, as in fallen. It can be a verb or a noun in the online Oxford English Dictionary.

e. Superlative -est and Comparative -er

Famala and Rahayu (2021) state that the suffix -est is an inflectional suffix added to an adjective and denotes a superlative degree marker. Examples are fastest and tallest. On the other hand, the suffix -er that is applied to the end of an adjective indicates a comparative degree marker, as in harder, bigger, and smaller (Fromkin, et al., 2019).

There are several types of derivative category processes:

a. Verb to Adjective

Living, singing, sleeping, satisfied, and decided were formed from the verb to the adjective. The roots of both words are live, sing, sleep, satisfy, and decide, which are verbs. The other suffixes are -ing and -ed. Meanwhile, the prefix is a-.

b. Noun to Adjective

Beautiful and interesting were words from noun to adjective. The root of both words is beauty and interest, which are nouns. The suffixes -ful and -ing are used in adjectives to indicate their nature.

c. Noun to Adverb

There are three words, from noun to adverb, namely indeed, instead, and ahead. The roots of both are deed, stead, and head, nouns. The prefixes are in- and a-. The prefix applied to form an adverb that designates a thing is gone. And then, the word used as a prefix changes the meaning pattern of the root word.

d. Adjective to Adverb

Badly, carefully, cautiously, finally, only, really, quickly, swiftly, necessarily, actually, and apparently, there were nine words from adjective to adverb. The roots of both are bad, careful, cautious, final, on, real, quick, swift, necessary, actual, and apparent which are adjectives. The suffix -ly is used to form adverbs indicating the kind or extent.

e. Verb and Adjectiv

The word reintroduce is a verb. The root is introduce, and the prefix is re- indicates an action or repeat an activity that has occurred. Meanwhile, the word of adjective is unsure. The prefix of this word is -un, and the meaning is negative, which modifies the meaning of the root word or can be said to be the opposite of the root word.

The analyst intends to compare five prior studies investigating the same subject as the writer's research, which focuses on examining derivational and inflection morphemes. First, Maoelana (2021) researched most types and processes of inflectional and derivational morphemes. The most common types are inflectional, 372 words, and derivation, 303 words. Then, the processes of inflection are past tense, progressive, past participle, plural, possessive, comparative, and superlative. Meanwhile, most derivational processes are verb to noun as 109 words. Second, Fitria (2020) conducted a study to analyze derivational and inflectional morphemes in selected news from tempo.co.

The result of the research showed that there were 260 words as inflection and 97 words as derivational, showing the forming of suffixes. Third, an analysis of derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of Adele's album was presented by Afri and Maulina (2021). The study showed 47 data, of which 14 were derivational and 33 were inflectional suffixes. The data analysis showed that Adele's album found the suffixes -er, -en, -ing, -ly, -ment, and -ness. The affixes were -d, -s, -ed, -ing, -es, -er, -est. Fourth, Nurjanah and Ma'mun (2023), researched inflectional and derivational affixes on song lyrics in Justin Bieber's Justice Album. This analysis of the types of word classes, such as a bound morpheme, showed 88 words, namely 60 inflectional and 22 words derivational words. Fifth, Meinawati et al., (2020) research explored classifying derivational and inflectional morphemes in Ariana Grande's album Thank U, Next lyrics. This study demonstrated the process of recognizing derivational and inflectional morphemes and analyzed the word formation process.

4. Conclusion

To conclude, morphemes are the smallest meaningful language units. They are regarded as a significant unit. The reason is that they have a function of alteration to change the part of speech or the meaning of the grammar. There are 22 derivational morphemes and 61 inflectional morphemes. The most common derivational type is adjective to an adverb, which occurs 9 times or 40.90 per cent, followed by the suffix -ly.

Meanwhile, the most inflectional type is past tense, which uses the suffix -ed, occurring 23 times or 37.70 per cent. Derivational and inflectional processes were categorized in 6 ways. The 6 classified derivation processes are verb to adjective 5 words, noun to adjective and noun to adverb 3 words, adjective to adverb 9 words, verb to verb and adjective to adjective 1 word. On the other hand, the 6 categorized processes of inflectional are plural 12 items, past tense 23 items, progressive 16 items, past participle 1 item, superlative 2 items, and comparative 7 items.

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