

INFLECTIONAL AND DERIVATIONAL MORPHEME IN *THE CONVERSATION'S* ARTICLE

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Abstract

This study analyzes Inflectional and Derivational morphemes in The Conversation's article. Using a qualitative content analysis method with a theoretical approach. The results of the study show that there are 305 Inflectional Morphemes with the most dominant being Plural, while Derivational morphemes are 83 with the most dominant being the Adjective form into Adverb. This study provides a new perspective on the development of Inflectional and Derivational morphemes found in an article.

Keywords : *Inflectional, derivational, Morpheme, Article*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini menganalisis Inflectional dan Derivational morpheme dalam artikel The Conversation's. Menggunakan metode analisis konten kualitatif dengan pendekatan teori. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan terdapat 305 Inflectional Morpheme dengan yang paling dominant adalah Plural, sedangkan Derivational morpheme sebanyak 83 dengan yang paling dominant adalah bentuk Adjective menjadi Adverb. Penelitian ini memberikan perspektif baru tentang perkembangan Inflectional dan Derivational morpheme yang terdapat pada sebuah artikel.

Kata kunci: *Inflectional, Derivational, Morpheme, Article*

1. INTRODUCTION

The Conversation is an online media that presents articles written by researchers and academics from various scientific disciplines, which aim to provide deeper insight and information for people in the UK and throughout the world. The content includes online expert commentary on a variety of topics including politics, science, arts, business, economics, and education. (The Conversation, 2012) The University has teamed up with *The Conversation* to offer a range of training opportunities for researchers and academics. Each division will receive a number of visits from relevant editors and there is something on offer for everyone; from introductory sessions, to short workshops, and face-to-face clinics. (University of Oxford, 2012)

The Conversation places an emphasis on integrity, with writers and editors following an Editorial Charter and adhering to strict Community Standards. This media was founded in March 2011 in Melbourne, Australia, by Andrew Japan and Jack Rejtman with support from the University of Melbourne. Since then, *The Conversation* has expanded to various countries, including the UK, US, South Africa, France, Canada, Indonesia, New Zealand, Spain and Brazil. They also pay tribute to indigenous peoples, such as the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation in Melbourne and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia, as well as the Māori of New Zealand. (The Conversation, 2012)

Inflectional and Derivational are very important in an article because they both have a role in constructing meaning, maintaining clarity and conveying information appropriately to readers. According to Nordquist (2019) states that "inflectional morphology is the study of the processes (such as affixation and vowel change) that distinguish the forms of words in certain grammatical categories". According to Haspelmath (2013) state that "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 and Derivational are included in the Morphology branch, which is a field of linguistics that studies word structure and its formation. Mulyana (2007) states that "the term "Morphology" is derived from English morphology, meaning the branch of linguistics that studies the grammatical arrangement or parts of words". Suhardi (2008) state that "morphology as a branch of linguistics studies

problems related to word structure." Based on these definitions, it can be concluded that morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies and examines the relationship between one morpheme and another to form a word. Derivational in the English language related to the morphemes include the derivational suffix and prefix. According to O'Dwyer (2006) states that "suffix is more complex than prefixes and numerous." According to Ermanto (2008) explains that "inflectional is a meeting process affixes are added to the basic form so that new words are not formed changing lexical identity." According to Yule (2010) states that "in derivational morphemes, it is used bound morphemes to make new words or to make words of a different grammatical category from the stem or base." Based on the research above, the analysis of Inflectional and Derivational morphemes is essential in an article of The Conversation. Therefore, this research sought to investigate the types of inflectional and derivational morphemes appear in the article of The Conversation's article.

2. METHODOLOGY

In conducting a research, a structured method approach is absolutely necessary to ensure that the research process runs effectively and produces findings that can be accounted for. According to Creswell (2016) states that "qualitative research is a type of research that explores and understands the meaning of a number of individuals or groups of people from social background problems." According to Sugiyono (2011) states that "qualitative research is research used to research natural object conditions, where the researcher is the key instrument." Meanwhile According to Moleong (2008) states that "qualitative research is research that aims to understand the phenomena of what is experienced by the research subjects, for example behavior, perception, motivation, actions, holistically, and by means of description in the form of words and language, in a specific natural context and by utilizing various natural methods."

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This presents the results of the analysis of Inflectional and Derivational Morpheme on The Conversation's Article also the results of the analysis are below :

a. Inflectional Morpheme

The first is the plural form -s and -es, According to This inflectional morpheme -s indicates plural. It is added as a suffix at the end of the root word. Its addition indicates that the noun is plural. According to Rugaiyah (2018), it is commonly used in countable nouns in English, such as in books, seams, flax, and plants. Example: Gaffe → Gaffes,

Document → Documents, Problem → Problems, Year → Years. In this category, the suffix -s that appears in the example above in article 1, the suffix -s is used to change singular nouns into plural nouns. This means that the addition of this suffix indicates that the object in question is more than one. All of these forms add the suffix -s to indicate more than one object.

Second is Past Tense -ed, According to Saragih et al., (2022) stated that the past tense is used -ed to mark an event that occurred in the past. Example: Watch → Watched, Affect → Affected, Elect → Elected, Sponsor → Sponsored. In this category, The suffix -ed that appears in the example above is in article 2, the suffix -ed is used to change the base form of a verb into the past tense. This means that the action or event expressed by the verb has already occurred in the past. All of the above words follow a regular pattern (regular verbs), that is simply adding -ed at the end of the verb to form the past tense.

Third is Progressive -ing, According to Yusuf (2017) The suffix -ing is used to show progress or it can be referred to as the verb -ing. Adding the inflectional suffix -ing at the beginning of the basic form does not change the meaning and is technically correct. The suffix -ing is used to form verbs in the progressive or ongoing form. It is usually used in tenses such as the present continuous (is/are + verb-ing) or past continuous (was/were + verb-ing), which indicate that an activity is happening. Example: Make → Making, Conduct → Conducting, and Kill → Killing. In this category, The Suffix -ed that appears in the example above is in article 2 and 5, the suffix -ing used to indicate continuous or progressive forms (ongoing). All forms of the verb express an action that is ongoing at a certain time.

Fourth is Past Participle -en, According to Hasselgard, Lysvåg & Johansson (2012) “Participle is a non-finite form of the verb. The past participle of regular verbs ends in -ed. In irregular verb, it is the third form cited.” The suffix -en is used in irregular verbs to form the past participle, which is the third form of the verb. The past participle is used in various sentence structures such as the present perfect (has/have + past participle), past perfect, or passive sentences. Example: Take → Taken, and Shake → Shaken. In this category, The Suffix -en that appears in the example above is in the article 4, the suffix -en used to indicate the third form of the verb (used in passive sentences or perfect tense). The suffix -en is added to form the past participle form of irregular verbs.

Fifth is Superlative -est, According to Famala and Rahayu (2021) state that the suffix -est is an inflectional suffix added to an adjective and denotes a superlative degree marker. The suffix -est is used to form adjectives in the superlative form, namely stating the highest or lowest level compared to more than two objects.

Example: Young → Youngest, High → Highest and Rich → Richest. In this category, the suffix -est that appears in the example above is in the article 3 and 4, the suffix -est used the indicates the highest level in comparison. Superlative is used to compare more than two objects and shows that something is at the highest or lowest level.

Sixth is Comparative -er, According to Fromkin, et al., (2019) state that the suffix -er that is applied to the end of an adjective indicates a comparative degree marker, as in harder, bigger, and smaller. The suffix -er is used to express a degree of comparison between two things or objects. Adjectives in this form indicate that one thing has a higher (or lower) quality than the other. Example: Close → Closer and Early → Earlier. In this category, the suffix -er that appears in the example above is in the article 1, the suffix -er used the Indicates a form of comparison between two objects. The suffix -er is used to state that something is more than another in an aspect.

Table 1. Types of Inflectional Morpheme

No	Types of Inflectional	Data	Percentages
1.	Plural	140	45.9%
2.	Past Tense	93	30.49%
3.	Progressive	61	20.0%
4.	Past Participle	4	1.31%
5.	Superlative	5	1.64%
6.	Comparative	2	0.66%
	Total	305	100%

Based on the data in the table 2, the most frequently occurring type of inflectional morpheme is Plural, with a percentage of 45.9%. This indicates that the formation of plural nouns is highly dominant in the data corpus. Past Tense and Progressive forms also show relatively high usage, suggesting that past events and ongoing actions are commonly expressed. On the other hand, Past Participle, Superlative, and Comparative forms have very low frequencies, indicating that their usage is limited within the context of the analyzed data.

b. Derivational Morpheme

The second finding is derivational morpheme, Based on the analysis of word transformation processes in the text, the most dominant morphological process is the adjective to adverb (Adj → Adv) transformation, accounting for 33% of all changes. This indicates that many adjectives were converted into adverbs by adding the suffix -ly. This transformation is commonly used in formal texts to emphasize the manner or intensity of

an action. An example is *brilliant* becoming *brilliantly*. The verb to noun (Verb → Noun) transformation is the second most frequent, representing 20% of the total. This process plays a crucial role in forming abstract terms or concepts, often seen in political or administrative language—such as *appoint* becoming *appointment*. Other transformations, such as noun to adjective (Noun → Adj), adjective to noun (Adj → Noun), and verb to adjective (Verb → Adj), also appear, although with lower frequency. These reflect the diverse use of derived word forms to meet grammatical and semantic needs within the text. Less common processes, such as noun to noun (Noun → Noun) and verb to verb (Verb → Verb), only occurred once each. This suggests that such transformations are more context-specific and less frequent in the analyzed text.

Table 2. Types of Derivational Morpheme

No	Types of Derivational	Data	Percentages
1.	Adj → Adv	33	33%
2.	Verb → Noun	20	20%
3.	Noun → Adj	10	10%
4.	Adj → Noun	7	7%
5.	Verb → Adj	4	4%
6.	Noun → Adv	3	3%
7.	Adj → Adj	4	4%
8.	Noun → Noun	1	1%
9.	Verb → Verb	1	1%
	Total	83	100%

Based on the data in the table 4 above, This table presents the types of derivational morpheme processes based on the changes in word class categories (parts of speech) there are Adj → Adv, Verb → Noun, Noun → Adj, Adj → Noun, Verb → Adj, Noun → Adv, Adj → Adj, Noun → Noun and Verb → Verb that found in the data. A total of 83 words were analyzed.

4. CONCLUSIONS

This study analysis INFLECTIONAL AND DERIVATIONAL MORPHEME IN THE CONVERSATION'S ARTICLE, focusing on morphological analysis of the use of affixation in the form of inflectional and derivational morphemes. The analysis centers on:

- Inflectional morphemes – how suffixes like *-s*, *-ed*, *-ing*, *-en*, *-est*, and *-er* function to mark grammatical categories such as tense, plurality, aspect, and comparison without altering the word class.

- b. Derivational morphemes – the transformation of word categories, with the most frequent being adjective to adverb (Adj → Adv) and verb to noun (Verb → Noun), which are used to express manner, intensity, or abstract concepts in formal discourse.
- c. The results of the study show that the dominant inflection is plural, as many as 305 words, while the dominant derivation is the form of adjectives into adverbs, as many as 83 words contained in The Conversation's article.

Thus, the main focus is on understanding how morphological structures—both inflectional and derivational—are employed in the text to shape meaning, function, and grammatical structure, particularly in a formal or academic context.

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