

# DERIVATIONAL SUFFIXES FOUND IN MARTIN LUTHER KING'S SPEECH I HAVE A DREAM

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**Abstract:** This research aims at identifying the derivational suffixes and explaining the processes of word-formation using derivational suffixes in 'I Have A Dream' Speech. The data are in the form of words that contain derivational suffixes in 'I Have A Dream' speech. This research is a qualitative research. In collecting the data, the documentation technique was used in this research and the steps the researcher have taken in order to collect the data are: reading the script of 'I Have A Dream' speech, underlining the words that contain derivational suffix, classifying those words into category and writing them on the data cards that have been prepared. The procedures of analysing the data were based on Miles and Huberman's theory, they are: data reduction, data display and data verification/conclusion. The result shows that, there are 31 derivational suffixes were found (20 nominal suffixes, 1 verbal suffix, 11 adjectival suffixes, and 1 adverbial suffixes), 9 words did not have any change on lexical categories after having derivational suffixes attached to them and there are 77 words were having word-formation processes by the addition of derivational suffixes.

**Keywords:** *Derivational suffixes, nominal suffixes, verbal suffixes, adjectival suffixes, adverbial suffixes, speech*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Derivational suffix is an affix that is added to the end of a word. It is categorized as bound morpheme. The process of this is called derivation. According to Geert Booij (2005: p.5), derivation is the process of forming new word by adding affix (English mostly has prefix and suffix) to a free morpheme (a base word), and the new word often comes out with different part of speech from the base word in which a derivational suffix is attached to. For example, the word *withering* (adjective: very harsh or severe) in phrase "millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice" (from Martin Luther King's I Have

A Dream, 1963), consists of the construction of two morphemes: 1 free morpheme *wither* (verb: to become weak) and 1 bound morpheme *-ing* (a suffix used to form adjective from verb). The word *withering* modifies the noun *injustice* giving meaning in that phrase that the Negroes are facing injustice that is withering or harsh. The word *freedom* (noun: the quality or state of being free) in phrase "the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation" (from Martin Luther King's I Have A Dream, 1963), consists of the construction of two morphemes: 1 free morpheme *free* (adjective: not costing or charging anything) and 1 bound morpheme *-dom* (a suffix used to form noun from adjective). The word

*freedom* in that phrase is used to show people's condition that is not bound, confined and detained by a force or law that is seizing their freedom or liberty from many racial injustices toward them. We can see that those two examples *withering* (an adjective) and *freedom* (a noun) are derived words because they are formerly a verb *wither* and an adjective *free*, but they become adjective and noun by the additions of derivational suffixes -ing and -dom.

The use of derivational suffix creates new word often with different part of speech. That means we can create new word creatively by using this kind of suffix. To create new words means to gain words, and that means we can expand our vocabularies. Words are very important things that play a big role in any language. Kamagi et al (2018: p.847) said that language constitutes the meaning of communication. People learn a language specifically English language in order to be able to communicate in English.

As English learner who learns English as foreign language, probably the most important thing that an English learner must first have in memory is the vocabularies of English because vocabulary means words. Hüseyin Öz (in ArifSarıcoban, 2014: p.83) said that, “. . . words are an important component of our mental grammar in our linguistic knowledge.” In addition, Wilkins in Mofareh Alqatahni (2015: p.22) once stated, “. . . without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed.” Therefore, to use English (in terms of to listen, read, write and speak), someone of course needs vocabulary (words). Rombepajung, P (2019: p.35) said that English students have to master the four aspects of skills namely listening, speaking, reading and writing so that students can have English language competence both oral and written. To master the English, students or anyone who learns English of course need to have vocabularies.

In order to have lots number of vocabularies, there are many ways suggested can be used to learn words and store them in brain. Rorimpandey, R (2019: p. 43) said that in order to improve students or anyone who are currently learning English, the teachers should be able to strive so that the learners can master and understand English and that's why teachers must have a variety of knowledge about the methods or techniques, media and interesting approaches to use. To boost our vocabularies, it can be by memorizing, using vocabulary booster apps, and one the researcher can advise is by learning derivational suffix because this is a process of word-formation, the creation of new words.

Cited in Arif Sariçoban (2014: p.83), “Recent research suggests that learners with an awareness of word-formation processes tend to have larger vocabulary and better reading comprehension (Kieffer and Lesaux, 2008; Kieffer and Lesaux, 2012a/2012b), and by extension better writing (Templeton, 2012).” Also, cited in Cholo Kim (2013: p.59), “According to Stockwell and Donka (2001), well over 80 percent of the total vocabulary of English is borrowed and most of its words can be used with affixation. Therefore, studying vocabulary with affix systems or patterns would seem to be much more effective language learners than just memorizing words.” From these statements, we can see that it is useful and helpful for English learners who are currently studying English as foreign language to learn and get knowledge about derivational suffix process, since this process can help us in creating new word just from the existing ones.

We can learn and get knowledge of derivational suffixes in linguistic books especially Morphology. These can be used as a tool to learn and get knowledge about derivational suffixes.

Based on the statements above, the researcher interests to conduct a research entitled “**Derivational Suffixes Found in Martin Luther King’s Speech I Have A Dream.**”

## 2 RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative a research. The data that has been taken were in the form of words. Bogdan and Biklen (2007: p.5) stated that qualitative research is descriptive where the data are not numbers rather they are words that can be collected from interview transcripts, fieldnotes, video, personal document and other official records.

The focus of this research is to collect and analyze the data that are in the form of words. All the data, which are in the form of words, were taken from 'I Have A Dream' speech which has been stated in the title of this research. The purpose of this research is to answer the research questions, they are: 1) “What are the derivational suffixes in ‘I Have A Dream’ speech?”, 2) “How is the process of derivational suffixes in forming words in ‘I Have A Dream’ speech?”.

### 2.1 Data Collection

Data collection is the activity taken by a researcher in order to obtain data needed. The data in this research were taken from 'I Have A Dream' speech script. The researcher was using a technique namely *documentation technique*. In documentation technique, a researcher is using written sources to obtain data. Those written sources can be in the forms of magazines, newspapers, literary works, field notes and so on (Zaim, 2014: p.95).

In order to collect the data, the researcher took these steps: reading the script of 'I Have A Dream' speech, underlining the words that contain derivational suffix, classifying those

words into category and writing them on the data cards that have been prepared.

### 2.2 Data Analysis

Bogdan and Biklen (2007: p.157) stated, “By data analysis, we mean the process of systematically researching and arranging the interview transcripts, field notes and other materials that you accumulate to enable you to come up with findings”. In data analysis, a researcher processes the data that she has already collected through data collection. The purpose of data analysis is to come up with findings or the answers for the research questions.

The procedures of data analysis were based on Miles and Huberman’s theory (1994), they are data reduction, data display and data verification/conclusion.

## 3 FINDINGS

### Data Reduction

For the mutual benefit and protection of Authors and Publishers, it is necessary that Authors provide formal written Consent to Publish and Transfer of Copyright before publication of the Book. The signed Consent ensures that the publisher has the Author’s authorization to publish the Contribution. Following the steps conducted by Miles and Huberman, the first step is data reduction. In this step the researcher reduced all the data to come to the data that are necessarily to be in this research. Through this step, the researcher also started to categorize all the data into words that have nominal suffixes, verbal suffixes, adjectival suffixes and adverbial suffixes.

### Data Display

The table below shows the words (nouns) that contain derivational suffixes, the derivational suffixes that were attached to

those words and where those words were derived from.

Table 1 Words with Nominal Suffix

Word	Suffix	Derived from
FREEDOM	-dom	Adj
EMANCIPATION	-ion	V
PROCLAMATION	-ation	V
AMERICAN	-n (-an)	N
CAPTIVITY	-ity	Adj
INDEPENDENCE	-ence	Adj
HAPPINESS	-ness	Adj
URGENCY	-ency	Adj
COOLING	-ing	Adj
GRADUALISM	-ism	Adj
NINETEEN	-teen	N
BROTHERHOOD	-hood	N
BEGINNING	-ing	V
CITIZENSHIP	-ship	N
DISCIPLINE	-ine	N
MILITANCY	-cy	N
DEVOTEE	-ee	V
TRIALS	-al	V
OWNER	-er	V
RACIST	-ist	N
GOVERNOR	-or	V
NULLIFICATION	-ification	V

Below are the analyses of the data from the table above.

- a. Derived-noun from verb: -ion, -ation, -ee, -ification, -ing, -al, -er, -or

### EMANCIPATION

“...signed the *Emancipation Proclamation*”

The word *emancipation* (a noun means being free from any kinds of restrictions) was formed from a verb *emancipate* with an addition of suffix -ion. When the suffix -ion added to the word *emancipate*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of suffix -ion transforms the word *emancipate* from verb becoming a noun.

### PROCLAMATION

“...signed the *Emancipation Proclamation*”

The word *proclamation* (a public announcement) was formed from a verb *proclaim* with an addition of suffix -ation. When the suffix -ation added to the verb *proclaim*, the letter ‘i’ was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ation transforms the word *proclaim* from verb becoming a noun.

### DEVOTEE

“There are those who are asking the *devotee* of civil rights.”

The word *devotee* (an ardent follower of something or someone) was formed from a verb *devote* with an addition of suffix -ee. When the suffix -ee added to the word *devote*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ee transforms the word *devote* from verb becoming a noun.

### NULLIFICATION

“...with the words of interposition and *nullification*”

The word *nullification* (an act of nullifying) was formed from a verb with an addition of suffix -ification. When the suffix -ification added to the word *nullify*, the last the letters ‘ify’ of that word were dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ification transforms the word *nullify* from verb becoming a noun.

### BEGINNING

“Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a *beginning*.”

The word *beginning* (**a**) the first part of something, **b**) the time when something begins) was formed from a verb *begin* with an addition of suffix -ing. When the suffix -ing added to the verb *begin*, there is an addition before the suffix, it is ‘n’. The

addition of the suffix *-ing* transforms the word *begin* from verb becoming a noun.

### **TRIAL**

“...some of you have come here out of *trials* and tribulations.”

The word *trial* (an attempt to do something usually under prohibition) was formed from a verb *try* with an addition of suffix *-al*. When the suffix *-al* added to the verb *try*, the ‘y’ at the end of that word was changed to ‘i’. The addition of the suffix *-al* transforms the word *try* from verb becoming a noun.

### **OWNER**

“...the son of former slaves *owners*”

The word *owner* (a person who owns something) was formed from a verb *own* with an addition of suffix *-er*. The addition of the suffix *-er* transforms the word *own* from verb becoming a noun.

### **GOVERNOR**

“...with its *governor* having his lips dripping”

The word *governor* (commonly known as someone who leads or governs a state government in USA) was formed from a verb *govern* with an addition of suffix *-or*. The addition of the suffix *-or* transforms the word *govern* from verb becoming a noun.

b. Derived-noun from adjective: *-dom*, *-ence*, *-ness*, *-ity*, *-ing* *-ism*, *-cy*

### **FREEDOM**

“...as the greatest demonstration for *freedom*”

The word *freedom* (a noun means having power or right to do anything without restriction or control from someone or something else) was formed from an adjective *free* with an addition of suffix *-*

*dom*. The addition of suffix *-dom* transforms the word *free* from adjective becoming a noun.

### **INDEPENDENCE**

“...the Constitution and the Declaration of *Independence*”

The word *independence* (the quality of someone or something is being independent) was formed from an adjective *independent* with an addition of suffix *-ence*. When the suffix *-ence* added to the adjective *independent*, the three letters ‘ent’ at the end of that word were dropped out. The addition of suffix *-ence* transforms the word *independent* from adjective becoming a noun.

### **HAPPINESS**

“...would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of *Happines*”

The word *happines* (the quality or feeling when someone has something good happens to his/her life) was formed from an adjective *happy* with an addition of suffix *-ness*. When the suffix *-ness* added to the adjective *happy*, the ‘y’ at the end of that word was changed to ‘i’. The addition of the suffix *-ness* transforms the word *happy* from adjective becoming a noun.

### **COOLING**

“This is no time to engage in the luxury of *cooling off*”

The word *cooling* (action or process of making something cooler) was formed from an adjective *cool* with an addition of suffix *-ing*. The addition of the suffix *-ing* transforms the word *cool* from adjective becoming a noun.

### **GRADUALISM**

“...or to take the tranquilizing drug of *gradualism*”

The word *gradualism* (a principle of reforming gradually rather than changing suddenly or drastically) was formed from an adjective *gradual* with an addition of suffix -ism. The addition of the suffix -ism transforms the word *gradual* from adjective becoming a noun.

### URGENCY

“...to remind America of the fierce *urgency* of Now.”

The word *urgency* (a pressing situation needs a quick response) was formed from an adjective *urgent* with an addition of suffix -cy. When the suffix -cy added to the adjective *urgent*, the ‘t’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -cy transforms the word *urgent* from adjective becoming a noun.

### CAPTIVITY

“...to end the long night of their *captivity*”

The word *captivity* (a condition of being imprisoned) was formed from an adjective *captive* with an addition of suffix -ity. When the suffix -ity added to the adjective *captive*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ity transforms the word *captive* from adjective becoming a noun.

c. Derived-noun from noun: -ship, -cy, -ist, -teen, -hood, -ine, -n (-an)

### CITIZENSHIP

“...until the Negro is granted his *citizenship* rights”

The word *citizenship* (a status of being member in a country) was formed from a noun *citizen* with an addition of suffix -ship. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *citizenship*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

### AMERICAN

“...to which every *American* was to fall heir”

The word *American* (citizen of the United States of America) was formed from a noun *America* with an addition of suffix -n. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *American*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

### MILITANCY

“The marvelous new *militancy* which has engulfed the Negro community”

The word *militancy* (an aggressive act resulting violence usually done as a method in supporting a political cause) was formed from a noun *militant* with an addition of suffix -cy. When the suffix -cy added to the adjective *militant*, the ‘t’ at the end of that word was dropped out. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *militancy*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

### RACIST

“...down in Alabama, with its vicious *racists*”

The word *racist* (a person who has belief that the primary or main determinant in human traits is race) was formed from a noun *race* with an addition of suffix -ist. When the suffix -ist added to the noun *race*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *racist*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

### NINETEEN

“*Nineteen* sixty-three is and an end,”

The word *nineteen* (cardinal number; number before twenty) was formed from a noun *nine* with an addition of suffix -teen. In

this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *nineteen*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

**BROTHERHOOD**

“...from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of *brotherhood*”

The word *brotherhood* (the state of being brother) was formed from a noun *brother* with an addition of suffix *-hood*. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *brotherhood*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

**DISCIPLINE**

“...on the high plane of dignity and *discipline*”

The word *discipline* (an act of training someone to act in accordance to a rule) was formed from a noun with an addition of suffix *-ine*. When the suffix *-ine* added to the word *disciple*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *discipline*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is noun.

The table below shows the words (verbs) that contain derivational suffixes, the derivational suffixes that were attached to those words and where those words were derived from.

Table 2 Words with Verbal Suffix

Word	Suffix	Derived from
DRAMATIZE	-ize	Adj
REALIZE	-ze	Adj

Below are the analyses of the data from the table above.

- a. Derived-verb from adjective: -ize

**DRAMATIZE**

“And so we’ve come here today to *dramatize* a shameful condition”

The word *dramatize* (to express or present something in a dramatic way) was formed from an adjective *dramatic* with an addition of suffix *-ize*. When the suffix *-ize* added to the adjective *dramatic*, the two letters ‘ic’ at the end of that word were dropped out. The addition of the suffix *-ize* transforms the word *dramatic* from adjective becoming a verb.

**REALIZE**

“...have come to *realize* that their destiny is tied up with our destiny”

The word *realize* (to become fully aware of something) was formed from an adjective *real* with an addition of suffix *-ize*. The additon of the suffix *-ize* transforms the word *real* from adjective becoming a verb.

The table below shows the words (adjectives) that contain derivational suffixes, the derivational suffixes that were attached to those words and where those words were derived from.

Table 3 Words with Adjectival Suffix

Word	Suffix	Derived from
WITHERING	-ing	V
HALLOWED	-ed	V
CREATIVE	-ive	V
UNSPEAKABLE	-able	V
INSUFFICIENT	-ent	V
RIGHTFUL	-ful	Adj
MOMENTOUS	-ous	N
SYMBOLIC	-ic	N
RACIAL	-al	N
SHAMEFUL	-ful	N
UNALIENABLE	-able	N

REDEMPTIVE	-ive	N
NORTHERN	-ern	N
CROOKED	-ed	N
CURVACEOUS	-aceous	N

Below are the analyses of the data from the table above.

a. Derived-adjective from verb: -ing, -ed, -ive, -able, -ent

### WITHERING

“...who had been seared in the flames of *withering* injustice”

The word *withering* (the process of destroying or cutting something or someone down) was formed from a verb *wither* with an addition of suffix -ing. The addition of the suffix -ing transforms the word *wither* from verb becoming an adjective.

### HALLOWED

“...this *hallowed* spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now”

The word *hallowed* (holy or sacred) was formed from a verb *hallow* with an addition of suffix -ed. The addition of the suffix -ed transforms the word *wither* from verb becoming an adjective.

### CREATIVE

“You have been the veterans of *creative* suffering”

The word *creative* (a state of having imagination on producing something usually of an artistic work) was formed from a verb *create* with an addition of suffix -ive. When the suffix -ive added to the verb *create*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ive transforms the word *create* from verb becoming an adjective.

### UNSPEAKABLE

“...the victim of *unspeakable* horror of police brutality”

The word (*un*)*speakable* (cannot be spoken or uttered) was formed from a verb *speak* with an addition of suffix -able. The addition of the suffix -able transforms the word *speak* from verb becoming an adjective.

### INSUFFICIENT

“...there are *insufficient* funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation”

The word (*in*)*sufficient* (not sufficient or not enough) was formed from a verb with an addition of suffix -ent. When the suffix -ent added to the word *suffice*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was changed to ‘i’. The addition of the suffix -ent transforms the word *suffice* from verb becoming an adjective.

b. Derived-adjective from adjective: -ful

### RIGHTFUL

“In the process of gaining our *rightful* place”

The word *rightful* (proper, valid, legal, appropriate) was formed from an adjective with an addition of suffix -ful. In this process, there is no change happens to the resulting word (derived word) *rightful*. Both the base word and the resulting word are on the same part of speech that is adjective.

c. Derived-adjective from noun: -ous, -ic, -al, -ful, -able, -ive, -ern, -ed, -aceous

### MOMENTOUS

“This *momentous* degree came as a great beacon light of hope”

The word *momentous* (describes important moment) was formed from a noun *moment* with an addition of suffix -ous. The addition of the suffix -ous transforms the word *moment* from noun becoming an adjective.

### SYMBOLIC

“...a great American, in whose *symbolic* shadow we stand today”

The word *symbolic* (representing a symbol of something) was formed from a noun with an addition of suffix -ic. The addition of the suffix -ic transforms the word *symbol* from noun becoming an adjective.

**SHAMEFUL**

“And so we’ve come here today to dramatize a *shameful* condition”

The word *shameful* (disgraceful, immoral) was formed from a noun *shame* with an addition of suffix -ful. The addition of the suffix -ful transforms the word *shame* from noun becoming an adjective.

**UNALIENABLE**

“...would be guaranteed the *unalienable* Rights”

The word (*un*)*alienable* (not transferable or cannot be transferred) was formed from a noun *alien* with an addition of suffix -able. The addition of the suffix -able transforms the word *alien* from noun becoming an adjective.

**REDEMPTIVE**

“...that unearned suffering is *redemptive*”

The word *redemptive* (getting free or far away from sin) was formed from a noun *redemption* with an addition of suffix -ive. When the suffix -ive added to the noun *redemption*, the three letters ‘ion’ at the end of that word were dropped out. The addition of the suffix -ive transforms the word *redemption* from noun becoming an adjective.

**RACIAL**

“...from the quicksands of *racial* injustice”

The word *racial* (relating to distinction in society based on race) was formed from a noun *race* with an addition of suffix -al. When the suffix -al added to the noun *race*,

the ‘e’ at the end of that word was dropped out. The addition of the suffix -al transforms the word *race* from noun becoming an adjective.

**NORTHERN**

“...go back to the slums nad ghettos of our *northern* cities,

The word *northern* (situated in the north) was formed from a noun with an addition of suffix -ern. The addition of the suffix -ern transforms the word *north* from noun becoming an adjective.

**CROOKED**

“...and the *crooked* places will be made straight,”

The word *crooked* (not straight) was formed from a noun *crook* with an addition of suffix -ed. The addition of the suffix -ed transforms the word *crook* from noun becoming an adjective.

**CURVACEOUS**

“Let freedom ring from the *curvaceous* slopes of California.”

The word *curvaceous* (having an attractive or pleasing figure) was formed from a noun *curve* with an addition of suffix -aceous. When the suffix -aceous added to the noun *curve*, the ‘e’ at the end of that word was changed to ‘a’. The addition of the suffix -aceous transforms the word *curve* from noun becoming an adjective.

The table below shows the words (adverbs) that contain derivational suffixes, the derivational suffixes that were attached to those words, and where those words were derived from.

Table 4 Words with Adverbial Suffix

Word	Suffix	Derived from
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SADLY	-ly	Adj
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The analysis of the datum from the table above is presented below.

### SADLY

“...the life of the Negro is *sadly* crippled...”

The word *sadly* (happening in unhappy way, showing sadness) was formed from an adjective *sad* with an addition of suffix -ly. The addition of the suffix -ly transforms the word *sad* from adjective becoming an adverb.

### Data verification/conclusion

After conducting the step of data reduction and data display as well as data analysis, the last step was to draw conclusion for the findings. In this research, there were found 31 suffixes, they consist of: 20 nominal suffixes, 1 verbal suffix, 11 adjectival suffixes and 1 adverbial suffix. Nominal suffixes consist of: -ion, -ation, -ee, -ification, -ing, -er, -or, -al, -dom, -ence, -ness, -ity, -ism, -cy, -ship, -ist, -teen, -n, -hood, -ine. Verbal suffix consists of: -ize. Adjectival suffixes consist of: -ing, -ed, -ive, -able, -ent, -ful, -ous, -ic, -al, -ern, -aceous. Adverbial suffix consists of: -ly.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

After having answered and discussed the purpose of this study which is to identify the derivational suffixes and to describe the word-formation processes of derivational suffixes in 'I Have A Dream' speech, the researcher finally comes to conclude that in this research, there were found 31 suffixes (20 nominal suffixes, 1 verbal suffix, 11 adjectival suffixes, and 1 adverbial suffix), 9 words did not have any change on lexical categories after having derivational suffixes attached to them and there are 77 words were having word-formation processes by the addition of derivational suffixes.

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