

## Morphological Analysis of Inflectional and Derivational Morphemes on Instagram's Captions

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### Abstract

Morphological process in word formation is not limited to the long text, novel or story, but it could be founded into shorter sentences such as Instagram's captions. Inflectional and derivational morphemes are a part of morphological process that used as a word formation. This study used a qualitative descriptive method to look for the types and the function of inflectional and derivational morphemes. The data was collected from Barack Obama's captions on Instagram post and analysed by using the theory of Victoria Fromkin, Rodman R, and Hymas N. in *An Introduction to Language*, 2014. The result showed that there were forty live kinds of inflectional morphemes and there were thirty four kinds of derivational morphemes, so there were eighty nine overall regarded to inflectional and derivational morphemes. However, there are not all types of inflectional morphemes that can be found in this study. The inflectional morphemes were to give grammatical information and do not the part of speech. In contras the derivational morpheme is the complex one because it can change the meaning and category of speech when some morphemes attached.

**Keywords:** Morphology, Inflectional Morphemes, Derivational Morphemes, Affixes

### INTRODUCTION

Based on the Global Social Media Statics, Instagram belongs to the most popular social networks worldwide, and get the fourth place of higher users of social media. Instagram exclusively created for photos, videos, stories posted with captions, that's why people are attracted to explore their moments in Instagram. By giving captions, they make descriptions on their posts. Some of them applied captions to declare their feelings, arguments or statements and give information depend on what videos or photos posted. Captions can be presented as a word, idioms, slang word and sentence, so it closely related to the linguistics aspect morphology which focus on the word or how a word is formed. "It tries to describe which meaningful pieces of language can be combined to form words and what the consequences of such combinations are on the meaning or the grammatical function of the resulting word", Dawson and Phelan (2016). In reading caption, the researchers found out there are the

different meaning of the use of morpheme “-s” attached into a free morpheme. For example, the word “students” and “congratulations”. There is addition “-s” in both of them, however they have their own purpose and meaning of. Morphemes defined as the smallest linguistics pieces with a grammatical function, which separated into free morphemes and bound morphemes. Bound morphemes may be attached at the beginning, in the middle, the end, or both at the beginning and the end of the word. Inflectional and derivational morphemes considered as bound morphemes. Based on the explanation above, the researchers are interested to found out the inflectional and derivational morpheme on Instagram’s captions. In addition, there were several previous studies considered to this are as follows.

The first study is conducted by Maulidina, Indriyani, Mardewi (2019). They described the study about the analysis of derivational and inflectional morphemes in Jakarta Post. They used descriptive qualitative method in their research. The data collected from articles of Jakarta post. In conducting this research, they following the theory from Victoria Fromkin in *An Introduction to Language* (2014) that said about the types of morpheme. The result of this research found that 8 words formed by derivational morpheme and there were 29 words formed by inflectional morpheme. From the result above, the writes concluded that whether derivational or inflectional has a particular function in word formation and give different grammatical function.

The second study is conducted by Nurjanah S, Ramdhani A, Efransyah M (2018). They analysed the affixation of derivational and inflectional process in narrative text entitled the ugly duckling. Descriptive qualitative method was used in conducting this research. The data collected from “The Ugly Ducling” cited from *English for Specific Purposes* by Subandi (2007). They found that the most frequently in morphology on text is inflectional, there were 29 words of inflectional process. They also found that there were nine words of kinds the suffix, there four kinds that attached to derivational process, there were five kinds that attached to inflectional process and there was only one kind of prefix that attached to inflectional process.

The third study is conducted by Arinia, N.K (2017). She conducted the research to find out the derivational and inflectional prefixes and suffixes in Batusesa Dialect of Balinese: A descriptive study. This research belonged to descriptive study with interview technique by choosing the appropriate informants. In obtaining the data, the researcher used two instruments: tape recorder and word list (the list of words contains prefixes and suffixes which taken from Nothover and Swedesh word list and also some words which contains prefixes and suffixes in Bahasa Indonesia), and the tape record is used to spoken language spontaneously. The results of this study show that there were four kinds of prefixes found in Batusesa Dialect, namely {n-}, {me-}, {pe-}, and {a-] and five kinds of suffixes namely {-ang}, {-nə}, {-in}, {-an} and {-ə}. There were three kinds of prefixes and one kind of suffix which belong to derivational morpheme namely {n-}, {me-}, {pe-}, and {-ang}. Moreover there were three kinds of

inflectional prefixes namely {n-}, {me-}, and {a-} and four kinds of suffix which belong to inflectional morpheme, namely {-nə},{-in}, {-an} and {-ə}. There were some grammatical function of prefix and suffixes in Batulesa dialect of Balines, namely affix coming verbal, affix forming nominal, affix forming numeral, affix forming adjective and affix forming adverb, activizer and passivizer.

So, the researcher decided to find out types and function of the inflectional and derivational morphemes in Obama's captions on Instagram in conducting this study.

## METHOD

This research applied a descriptive research. Qualitative research is considered with structure and pattern, Littosseliti (2020). The researcher used qualitative method to analyse and elaborate the data deeply. The data source from Barack Obama official account on instagram: @barackobama Instrument of this research was used theory of Victoria Fromkin, Rodman R, and Hymas N (2004). The data was analysed by following the procedures of collecting data,

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The data was collected from captions in twenty post of Barack Obama on his Instagram account: @barackobama. The data as bellow:

1. I was at @Stanford with the @ObamaFoundation to talk about the rise of disinformation around the world and the threat it poses to democracy. We all have a role to play here, so let's get to work"
2. Each of us has a role to play in protecting our planet. Each day is a reminder that if we pledge to do our part and the follow through on those commitments, we can give our children and theirs a brighter future. And there are steps you can take right now. Encourage your own communities to adopt smarter climate practices. Spread the word about how climates issues are affecting our wildlife, and share ways for people to get involved. And vote like our planet depends on it. Our world is far too important, and the time to act is now. Make sure to check out Our Great National Park series on Netflix and our Wild for All campaign with the Wildlife Conservation Society. Get involved at WildForAll.org.
3. Today, I was at Standford to talk about the threat that disinformation poses to democracy and share how we can work together to address it. Each of us-whether we work at a tech company or consume social media; whether we're a parent, a legislator, or an advertiser on one of these platforms-has to pick a side. Do we allow our democracy to wither? Or do we choose to make it better? That's the choice we face, and it is a choice worth embracing. Solving the disinformation problem won't cure all that ails our democracy or tears at the fabric of our world. But it can help rebuild the trust and solidarity needed to

make democracy stronger. The internet is a tool. Social media is tool. But at the end of the day, tools don't control us. We control them. It's up to each of us to decide what we value, and to use the tools we've been given to advance those values. I believe we should use every tool at our disposal to secure our greatest gift-a government of, by, and for the people-for generations to come. I hope you agree, and I look forward to joining you in that work.

4. In recent years, we've seen how quickly disinformation spreads, especially on social media. This has created real challenges for our democracy. Part of the reason it's hard to bring about change is because we live in a media environment that elevates falsehoods as much as truths, and divides people as much as it brings them together. Through the @ObamaFoundation, we're working to empower and equip emerging leaders to tackle issues like the spread of disinformation.
5. Wishing all who celebrate today a blessed and joyful Easter. After a difficult couple of years, let's give thanks for all the gifts we enjoy-and the people who make this life special.
6. During my presidency, I had the opportunity to travel the world and visit some amazing national parks. Each trip was captured by my good friend @PeteSouza, so we decided to reflect on some of our favourite memories and photo taken at national parks. Looking through these photos was a reminder that we're a small part of life on Earth-and it's our responsibility to preserve our planet for future generations. It's part of why we created Our Great National Parks on Netflix. I hope watching it inspires you to get involved in protecting our planet and wildlife.
7. 75 years ago, Jackie Robinson competed in his first MLB game-despite facing vicious treatment and threats. Throughout his life, Jackie used his voice to stand up for racial justice and in the process, changed America for the better. On Jackie Robinson Day, we're reminded of his ground breaking career and legacy that has paved way for so many who would follow-including me.
8. There's nothing I enjoy more than being with young people. And last week, I had a chance to speak with some of the bright students at Hyde Park Academy talking part in our Futures Series with the @ObamaFoundation. Here's a look at some of the advice I shared with them:
9. With the release of Our Great National Parks, I thought I'd visit one. I had fun at Great Falls Park with the kids from the @BGCA\_Clubs. I hope you'll spend some time outdoors, too. Join the #WildForAll Challenge with @TheWCS at WildForAll.org.
10. Our Great National Park is out today on @Netflix, and I can't wait for you to watch it. This @HigherGroundMedia series takes a look at the legacy of preservation and conservation, as well as the ways we can protect our amazing wildlife and natural landscapes. Along with @TheWCS, we're looking to encourage folks to not only experience nature, but also take action to perfect

our environment and wildlife for generations to come. Go to WildForAll.org learn more.

11. Disinformation is eroding trust in public institutions and threatening democracies around the world. We're working with our @ObamaFoundation Scholars and leaders to combat these forces, break through barriers, and meet their communities where they are.
12. Since the day he took office, @POTUS has been working to improve the Affordable Care Act. As part of the American Rescue Plan, he lowered the cost of healthcare even further for millions of people. He made outreach to those who didn't know they could get covered a priority. And as a result of these actions, he helped a record 14.5 million Americans get covered during the most recent enrolment period. This is what happens when you have an administration that's committed to making a program work. Last week, the Biden-Harris administration took step further to fix a glitch in the regulations that will lower premiums from nearly 1 million people who need it and allow 200,000 more uninsured Americans to get access to coverage. I'm grateful to President Biden, Vice President Harris, and everyone else who has worked so hard to write this next chapter of the ACA, and make it everything it can be.
13. The students I met yesterday at Hyde Park Academy in Chicago make me hopeful for the future. They're passionate about making a difference, and I enjoyed hearing their stories and sharing a little advice. For all the young people reading this, here's the advice I gave to them. I want you to know that you're not bound by the circumstance in which you're coming up. You're just a smart, talented, and gifted as anybody else. But the question is going to be: do you learn from your mistakes? Do you have a vision of where you're going? Are you determined and resilient? So when you fall down, do you pick yourself back up? I hope you do – and know that both Michelle and I believe in you.
14. Congratulations to Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson for her appointment to the Supreme court. This is a great day for America, and a proud moment in our history. Judge Jackson has the integrity, passion for the law, and experience to be an outstanding Supreme court Justice – and these last few weeks have made it even clearer. America will be a better place with her voice and example on the bench.
15. No trip to Chicago is complete without a @ChicagiBulls game – and this time I bought along some of the young people who are part of our @MBK\_Alliance and @GirlsOpportunityAlliance. Earlier in the day, they had the chance to speak with some of the folks who make the Bulls, Blackhawks and the United Center run to learn about their careers and what it takes to get to the top
16. It was great catching up with our latest class of @UChicago Obama Foundation Scholars. They've been working hard to improve their communities, and I'm looking forward to following their journeys.

## Inflectional Morpheme

Inflectional morpheme is a morpheme attached in some of part of speech, such as verb, noun, and adjectives. It has relation with grammar.

### 1. Third Person Singular (-s)

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Depends	Depend + s
2.	Elevates	Elevate + s
3.	Divides	Divide + s
4.	Inspires	Inspire + s
5.	Falls	Fall + s
6.	Happens	Happen + s
7.	Takes	Take + s

In the data above showed that morpheme (-s) was added as a suffix in verb to explain that was third person singular.

### 2. Past Tense (-ed) / (-d)

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Involved	Involve +d
2.	Blessed	Bless +ed
3.	Captured	Capture +d
4.	Decided	Decide +d
5.	Completed	Complete +d
6.	Shared	Share +d
7.	Paved	Pave +d
8.	Lowered	Lower +ed
9.	Covered	Cover +ed
10.	Helped	Help +ed
11.	Talented	Talent +ed
12.	Created	Create +d

In the data above, morphemes (ed) / (-d) added as suffix in verb were giving an information that was a past tense.

### 3. Progressive (-ing)

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Protecting	Protect +ing
2.	Embracing	Embrac(e) +ing
3.	Solving	Solv(e) +ing
4.	Working	Work +ing
5.	Wishing	Wish +ing
6.	Affecting	Affect +ing
7.	Breaking	Break +ing
8.	Talking	Talk +ing
9.	Being	Be +ing
10.	Looking	Look +ing
11.	Eroding	Erod(e) +ing
12.	Reading	Read +ing
13.	Coming	Com(e) +ing
14.	Going	Go +ing
15.	Watching	Wate +ing

The morphemes (-ing) were added as a suffix in verb for containing tenses information which is continuous tense.

### 4. Past Participle

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Given	Give – Gave - Given
2.	Elevates	Elevate + s

From several data above showed that some of words in represented past participle was added (-en) morphemes

### 5. Plural

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Poses	Poses
2.	Commitments	Commitments
3.	Steps	
4.	Communities	
5.	Platforms	

The data above were categorised as noun which were added morpheme (-s) were change into plural meaning.

## 6. Comparative (-er)

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Brighter	Bright +er
2.	Stronger	Strong +er
3.	Smarter	Smart +er
4.	Clearer	Clear +er
5.	Lower	Low+er

In the data above seen that every (-er) morphemes attached into adjectives would give comparison meaning.

## 7. Superlative (-est)

No	Finding	Inflectional Process
1.	Greatest	Bright +er

From the data, (-est) morpheme if attached in adjective could be meant superlative.

## **Derivational Morphemes**

Derivational morphemes is a morphemes that attached to word. It may changes the part of speech, and a new meaning.

### 1. Change part of speech

No	Finding	Affixes	
		Prefix	suffix
1.	Integrity		-ity
2.	Reminder	Re-	-er
3.	National		-al
4.	Conversation		-ion
5.	Advertiser		-r
6.	Improve	Im-	
7.	Preservation	Pre-	-ion
8.	Encourage	En-	
9.	American		-n
10.	Empower	Em-	
11.	Career		-er
12.	Enjoy	En-	

From the data found that if morphemes attached, whether prefix or suffix it may change a part of speech.



## 2. Do not change part of speech

No	Finding	Affixes	
		Prefix	suffix
1.	Disinformation	Dis-	-ion
2.	Rebuild	Re-	-er
3.	Preserve	Pre-	
4.	Uninsured	Un-	-ed
5.	Enrolment	En-	-ment

In the data above showed that there are some morphemes attached to words, however they did not change the word, but change the meaning.

Based on the result above, both morphemes of inflectional and derivational were found in sixteen data. The data of inflectional morphemes were represented by morpheme (-s) third person singular, (-ed) past tense, (-ing) progressive, (-en) past participle, (-s) plural, (-er) comparative, (-est) superlative. Morpheme (-s) of third person singular found seven words, (-ed) morpheme were fourteen words, (-ing) morpheme were fifteen words, (-en) morpheme were two word, (-s) morpheme refers to plural has thirty nine words, (-er) morpheme has five words, and one word of (-est) morpheme. However, no one word found in (-'s) morpheme that stands for possessive pronoun. Besides, the derivational morphemes found in two categorises, the first is change part of speech and the second one was do not change part of speech. The first category found twenty eight different words that consist of suffixes, prefixes and both of suffixes and prefixes, such as (-y), (re-, -er), (-al), (-ion), (-r), (im-), (-ly), (-ful), (-ity), (-able), (-al), (pre-, -ion), (-al), (-or), (en-), (-n), (em-) (-ion), (-ful), (-ate). The second category was do not change part of speech. Those consist of five words that separated into morphemes (dis-, -ion), (re-), (pre-), (un-), (en-).

## CONCLUSION

This study has discussed about the inflectional and derivational morphemes, and was following the theory of Victoria Fromkin, Rodman R, and Hymas N. in An Introduction to Language, 2014. They mentioned eight types of inflectional morphemes such as third person singular, past tense, progressive, past participle, plural, progressive, comparative, superlative and two types of derivational morpheme that change the part of speech and do not change the part of speech.

The data was found on the instagram's captions of Barack Obama top twelve post. The result showed that there were forty live kinds of inflectional morphemes and there were thirty four kinds of derivational morphemes, so there were eighty nine overall regarded to inflectional and derivational morphemes. However, there are not all types of inflectional morphemes that can be found in this study, was progressive. The researchers also found the function of inflectional and derivational morpheme. The inflectional morphemes were to give grammatical information and do not the part

of speech. In contrast the derivational morpheme was more complex because it can change the meaning and category of speech when some morphemes attached.

After analysing the morphological process in inflectional and derivational morphemes, the researchers recently know that inflectional and derivational morphemes also known as affixes. In other hand, both of inflectional and derivational had the important role in word formation before the word arranged into a sentence. Meanwhile, the inflectional has function in order to deliver the information of grammar, and the derivational has function to change the meaning of the word, that's why the part of speech also change.

### **Suggestion**

Based on the result of analysing the inflectional and derivational morphemes, the researchers want to give several suggestions in completely this research. The first is find out the newer theory at least in five years late to be used to analysed the morphemes. The second is try to analyse another types of word formations such as compounding and blending. It sounds more challenging to be solved. And the last, the researchers suggested that the theory of morphology have to be understood as well as, so avoid the misinterpreting in research.

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