

An Analysis of Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes in The Lyrics of Calum Scott's Songs in The Album "Bridges"

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Abstract

Morphology studies the intricate forms of words and the influence of changes in word forms on word categories and meanings. Morphemes, as the smallest grammatical units with meaning, are the primary focus of morphology. Morphemes cannot be further divided into smaller linguistic units. This research aims to investigate derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of Calum Scott's songs in the album "Bridges". The qualitative method is employed in this study, which reveals the presence of derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics. The analysis demonstrates the existence of various types of derivational and inflectional affixes. Inflectional morphemes, particularly affixes, are found to be more dominant in the lyrics of Calum Scott's songs in the album "Bridges". The findings of this research identify 50 derivational and 99 inflectional morphemes. In derivations, 21 types of affixes are discovered, including prefixes such as re-, pre-, a-, sur- and suffixes such as -ent, -le, -ion, -ful, -less, -ing, -ly, -ain, -ed, -ness, -ment, -y, -ry, -er, -ty, -st, and -ical. Furthermore, there are 8 types of inflectional morphemes, namely plural, past tense, past perfect, comparative, possessive, third-person singular, gerund, and progressive.

Keywords: Morphology, Morpheme, Derivational, Inflectional, Affix

1. Introduction

Language is a vital tool in human life, facilitating communication and fostering essential social and cultural connections. It enables the conveyance of information, ideas, emotions, and worldviews. According to Todd, language is a collection of signs that humans use to communicate (Nurjanah et al., 2018). It means that language is a set of signals used to convey meaning and messages from one person to another. About meaning, the smallest unit of meaning in language is morphology. Morphology is a field of study dedicated to examining the internal structure of words and the processes involved in forming words from smaller meaningful units known as morphemes.

According to Lieber (2004), who was cited in (Rizki & Zakrimal, 2020), "morpheme is the meaningful units that are used to form words". It means a morpheme is the smallest unit of language that carries meaning or grammatical function. Morphemes can be classified into two types: free morpheme and bound morpheme. The free morpheme is an independent linguistic unit capable of functioning as a standalone word, conveying meaning without the need for additional morphemes. It is also referred to as a "base word" or "independent word" in the field of linguistics. There are two categories of free morphemes: lexical morphemes and functional morphemes.

In contrast, a bound morpheme cannot exist independently and must be combined with a free morpheme to create a meaningful word. Bound morphemes encompass both prefixes and suffixes. For instance, the bound morpheme "un" can be added to the free morpheme "happy" to form the word "unhappy", while the bound morpheme "-ed" can be appended to the free morpheme "walk" to create the word "walked". Bound morphemes are further categorized into two types: derivational morphemes and inflectional morphemes.

A derivational morpheme is employed to generate new words by altering the meaning or word category of a root word. It can also combine with a root word to produce a new word with a distinct meaning and word category. For example, "friendship" comprises the root word "friend", a noun, and the derivational morpheme "-ship", which modifies the word's meaning to convey the concept of the relationship between friends.

An inflectional morpheme serves the purpose of indicating grammatical functions without altering the syntactic category of a word. For instance, “-s” indicates the plural form of nouns, as seen in “book” and “books”, “-ed”, indicates the past tense of verbs, as in “talk” and “talked” and “-ing” indicates the present participle form of verbs, as in “run” and “running”. Inflectional morphemes enable us to express grammatical meaning more precisely and in detail, playing a crucial role in understanding English grammar.

The writer’s research, titled “*An Analysis of Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes in the Lyrics of Calum Scott’s Songs in the Album “Bridges”*”, analyzes derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs from the album “Bridges”. The research aims to determine the frequency and extent of these morphemes in each song of the album and provides guidance on how to identify and differentiate the derivational and inflectional morphemes present in Calum Scott’s song lyrics from the album “Bridges”.

2. Research Method

This study employs a descriptive qualitative method, involving data collection, data analysis, and drawing conclusions based on the gathered evidence. In the research process, the writer seeks information from articles, journals, books, and the internet to aid in the analysis. The writer’s research, titled *An Analysis Of Derivational And Inflectional Morphemes In The Lyrics Of Calum Scott’s Songs In The Album “Bridges”* uses the album’s lyrics as the subject to identify and analyse morphemes that appear in the song’s lyrics. The writer followed a series of steps to collect data, beginning with the search for the lyrics of each song in Calum Scott’s in the album “Bridges”. And the album consists of 14 songs, but the writer found only 7 songs, including: Flaws, You Are The Reason, Boys in the Street, If You Ever Change Your Mind, Goodbye, Again, Biblical and Rise.

That exhibited a more pronounced tendency towards derivational and inflectional morphemes. After reading and identifying the derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics, the writer proceeded to describe and analyse the words associated with these morphemes. Furthermore, the writer explained the functions of word formation based on derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of the songs from Calum Scott’s album “Bridges”.

3. Findings and Discussion

Morphology

In linguistic, morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between meaning and form within words and between words. Thus, morphology is as the scientific study of the form and structure of words in a language. According to (Haspelmath & Sims, 2013) morphology is the study of the structure of the formation of words.

“Morphology as the study of word structure is intimately related to both language description and linguistic theory” (Arkadiev et al., 2018). it means that morphology is strongly connected to language description and linguistic theory as well as word structure.

According to (Lieber, 2015), Morphology is the study of word formation, encompassing the processes by which new words are created in different languages and how word forms can vary depending on their usage in sentences. So, it can be concluded that morphology case studies focus on word formation, which includes the formation of new words and their usage within sentences.

Morpheme

In the study of Morphology, the morpheme is considered to be the smallest unit of language that carries meaning. For example, the term “unbreakable” comprises three morphemes, namely “un-”, “break”, and “-able”. The prefix morpheme “un-” signifies negation or non-, the base morpheme “break” denotes the act of destroying, and the suffix morpheme “-able” indicates the ability or capability to do something.

As explained above, there are several experts who provide definitions of morpheme. First of all, based on (Haspelmath & Sims, 2013), a morpheme is recognized as the smallest identifiable unit that carries meaning.

Morpheme based on (Kusumawardhani, 2018) morpheme as the smallest unit that has meaning but it cannot be subdivided. It means morpheme is the smallest unit of language form that has meaning. Because it is the smallest form of a grammatical unit, morpheme cannot be further divided into units of language with smaller meanings.

According to Lieber in (Astuti et al., 2021) a morpheme can be defined as a meaningful unit used to construct words. This statement implies that a morpheme represents the smallest unit that encapsulates the meaning of a word.

Derivational Morpheme

Derivational morpheme is utilized to create new words, which may or may not lead to a change in the syntactic category. For example, when the derivational morpheme -ness is added, the adjective “good” transforms into the noun “goodness”.

According to Yule in (Nurfaizah, S., & Tanggoro, 2018), Derivational can be defined as a linguistic concept that refers to the formation of new words by adding affixes to a root word or base form. Affixes that can be added include prefix and suffix.

Based on Fromkin in (Maulidina et al., 2019) a derivational morpheme is the addition of a new word and it will add a new meaning. It means derivational is the process by which an old word (base word or root) is attached with affixes to form a new word.

According to Kolanchery in (Purwanti, 2020), a derivational morpheme is a morpheme added to a basic word which can be a prefix or a suffix to form a new word. For example, the word “impolite” means boorish or rude and the morpheme “polite” is the base word or root word that means respectful or courteous. When it is added by the prefix “im-”, the meaning changes a to new word because “im-” is an affix that means no or not.

Inflectional Morpheme

(Finegan, 2008, p 43) states that inflectional change the form of word but not its lexical category or its central meaning. it means that changing the grammatical arrangement will not change the meaning of the word.

According to (Nordquist, 2019a) “An inflectional morpheme is a suffix that is added to a word (a noun, verb, adjective, or an adverb) to assign a particular grammatical property to that word, such as its tense, number, possession, or comparison” (Fitria, 2020). It means inflectional is a word that does not change the meaning of the word even though there is an addition of a word at the end, it called suffix. Example of inflectional morpheme: the word “worked” is a simple past tense form that is created by adding the suffix “ed” to the base word “work” even if there is an addition at the end of the word, it will not change the meaning of the word. While the added word is used to follow rules derived from grammar and the use of that word.

Based on (Manihuruk, 2022) “the inflectional morpheme is the formation of a word without changing either its part of speech or its meaning”. It means inflectional morpheme as the formation of words or the addition of suffixes that will not change the meaning of the word.

Affix

According to Zainuddin in (Bunau & Yusof, 2018) affix can be defined as the process of forming derivative words by adding a free morpheme. It means affix is the process of forming derivative words which produce new words or new meanings. For example: “un-” (prefix) in “undo” (to reverse), “-ness” (suffix) in “happiness” (the state of being happy), and “-able” (suffix) in “comfortable” (able to provide comfort).

(Kusumawardhani, 2020) “affixation is a morphological process which supposed to change a root or base word to form a new word”. It means affixation as an affix that forms or changes a word or word root into a new word.

Based on (Rahayu, 2021), Affixes are attached to the root of a word to create a new word. There are two types of affixes: prefix and suffix. A prefix is an added to the beginning of a base word and modifies its meaning or changes its grammatical function. On the other hand, a suffix is added to the end of a base word and alters its meaning or modifies its grammatical function.

Prefix

Prefixes are commonly used in English and other languages to create new words. In English, prefixes typically consist of one or more letters added to the beginning of a base word. Some common examples of prefixes in English are “un-”, “re-”, “pre-”, “dis-”, “mis-”, “anti-”, and “in-”, among others. For instance, the word “happy” can be changed to “unhappy” by adding the prefix “un-” at the beginning, which changes the meaning to “not happy”.

Bieswanger and Becker (2006) in (Mena & Saputri, 2018) says that “prefix is affix that were attached to the beginning of a base, such as anti in the noun antihero (anti-hero), dis- in the verb disarm (dis-arm), or un- in the adjective unfair (unfair)”. It means Prefix is a group of letters added to the beginning of a word to modify its meaning. It can create a new word with a different meaning or modify the meaning of the base word.

According (Yastanti & Warlina, 2018), defined prefix as an affix before a root that is added to the beginning of a word or base word. So, it can be concluded that the prefix is at the beginning of the word before the base word.

Suffix

According to (Hien & Nhan, 2022) suffixes are character or character groups appended to the conclusion of a word in order to alter its meaning or generate a new word. This implies that a suffix functions as a set of characters positioned after the base word, modifying its significance or giving rise to a fresh term.

Suffixes are the smallest units of language or morphemes that are added to the end of words to modify their meaning or grammatical function. In English, there are two types of suffixes: derivational suffixes and inflectional suffixes. Derivational suffixes are used to create new words with different meanings, while inflectional suffixes alter the form of a word according to specific grammatical categories without changing its essential meaning. Examples of derivational suffixes in English include -ful (joyful), -ness (happiness), and -ly (slowly), while examples of inflectional suffixes in English include -s (books), -ed (walked), and -ing (running). It is important to note that suffixes only affect the form or meaning of a word, and do not change the overall meaning of a sentence.

According to (Nurtiddini & Soraya, 2019), inflectional suffixes are used to form words that maintain the same category and do not introduce new meanings, but instead modify grammatical functions such as number, degree, and tense. This implies that they do not alter the fundamental meaning of the word, but rather alter its structure to conform to

specific grammatical categories like plural, tense, or possession. Examples of inflectional suffixes in English include -s, -es, -ed, -ing, -en, -er, -est, -ful, -ly, and -ment.

Song

Based on (Pratiwi, 2018) a song is a short piece of music in which the song contains the lyrics. Song lyrics refer to the words or text that make up a song. These lyrics are typically written by a songwriter or lyricist and are meant to be sung or performed by a vocalist or musicians. Song lyrics can tell a story, convey emotions, express ideas or opinions, or simply serve as a poetic accompaniment to the music.

According to (Ibrahim et al., 2019) “a song is a piece of music for accompanied or unaccompanied voice or the act of singing, a song can be signed by one or more persons”. It means that the lyrics of a song are written by a songwriter or lyricist and are meant to be sung or performed by a singer or musician.

(Muhammad et al., 2021) says that a song is a work of musical art consisting of melodies and lyrics arranged harmoniously and songs are usually composed by talented singers or songwriters. And also, songs are created because someone expresses feelings, ideas or messages through songs that are addressed to listeners through the lyrics and melodies that are conveyed.

Relevant Studies

The writer intends to compare three prior studies that explore the same topic as the writer’s research, which focuses on the examination of derivational and inflectional morphemes.

The first study, conducted by (Tariq et al., 2020), analyzes the usage of derivational and inflectional morphemes among intermediate-level Pakistani students. Its primary objective is to examine how derivational and inflectional morphemes are used by Pakistani students. The study identifies significant effects resulting from the attachment of inflectional and derivational morphemes to other morphemes. When a derivational morpheme is attached to a free morpheme, it often conveys a different meaning and has the potential to change the word class. In contrast, inflectional morphemes primarily serve a grammatical function when attached to free morphemes.

The second study, conducted by (Fitria, 2020), aims to identify derivational and inflectional morphemes and determine their functions in selected news articles from Tempo.co. The analysis reveals a total of 357 words containing derivational and inflectional morphemes. Derivational morphemes account for 97 data points (27.17%), while inflectional morphemes make up 260 data points (72.83%).

The third study, conducted by (Maulidina et al., 2019) seeks to analyse morphemes present in articles from The Jakarta Post newspaper and assess their suitability for analysis. Grounded in Victoria Fromkin’s theory of morphemes, with a specific focus on derivational and inflectional morphemes, the study’s objective is to identify words formed through the use of these morphemes, investigate the process of word formation, and categorize the observed alterations. The researcher identified 8 words formed by derivational morphemes from 6 data points and 29 words formed by inflectional morphemes from 8 data points.

The writer’s research, titled *An Analysis of Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes in the Lyrics of Calum Scott’s Songs in the Album “Bridges”*, analyzes derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs from the album “Bridges”. The research aims to determine the frequency and extent of these morphemes in each song of the album and provides guidance on how to identify and differentiate the derivational and inflectional morphemes present in Calum Scott’s song lyrics from the album “Bridges”.

No	The title song	Many of derivational morphemes	Derivational morphemes
1.	“Flaws”	9	different, perfection, reflection, beautiful, remember, worthless, amazing, surface, really
2.	“You Are The Reason”	7	beating, hopeless, mountain, shaking, bleeding, defeated, keeping.
3.	“If You Ever Change Your Mind”	7	record, saving, scared, craving, relapse, forgiveness, pavement.
4.	“Rise”	6	standing, wondering, ready, thumping, mountain, question.
5.	“Boys In The Street”	10	country, being, lonely, repay, warmer, dying, finally, lying, knowing, only.

6.	“Goodbye, Again”	7	lover, lonely, trying, pretend, really, guilty, killing.
7.	“Biblical”	4	gravity, around, against, biblical.

In this section presents the results and discussion in this research. The results and discussion present the research obtained from the analysis of derivational and inflectional morphemes in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s song in the album “bridges”.

Based on the result of this research, several derivational and inflectional morphemes were found in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s Song in the album “Bridges”, as follow:

A. Derivational Morpheme

The derivational morpheme is usually affixing (prefix and suffix). Here are some examples of how derivational morphemes change the meaning or word class of base words that the writer found in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges”.

To identify process the derivational and inflectional contained in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges”. There is something the writer does when looking for derivational and inflectional morphemes. Derivational (affixation) Affixation refers to the process of adding affixes, such as prefix and suffix, to base words to create new words with altered meanings or different word categories.

1. The song titled “flaws”, in this song there are 9 derivational morphemes that changing the grammatical arrangement from the base word to create a new word.

For example:

- a. in the word “different”, the base word is “differ” which functions as a verb, and the suffix “-ent” is added at the end of the word to transform it from a verb into an adjective, creating a new word”.
- b. in the word “remember”, the base word is “member”, which functions as a noun. The prefix “re-” is added at the beginning of word to transform it from a noun into a verb, creating a new word.

In “rise” song, there are 9 derivational affixes identified in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s song in the album “Bridges”, as follow: -ent, -ion, -ion, -ful, re-, -less, -ing, sur-, -ly.

2. The song titled “you are the reason”, in this song, there are 7 derivational affixes namely: -ing, -less, -ian, -ing, -ing, -ed, -ing. The verb “shake” has a base form “shake”. When it added the “ing” suffix to it to form the gerund form, the final “e” in “shake” is dropped before adding the “-ing” ending. This dropping of the “e” is a common rule in english grammar for verbs that end with “e” when adding the “-ing” ending. This is done to maintain consistency in spelling and to simplify pronunciation.
3. The song title “If You Ever Change Your Mind”, there are 7 derivational affixes, as follow: re-, -ing, -ed, -ing, re-, -ness, -ment. When added suffix “ing” in the end of word “save” and “crave” the final word “e” of save and crave is omitted. This dropping of the “e” is a common rule in English grammar for verbs that end with “e” when adding the “-ing” ending.
4. The song titled “Rise”, there are 6 derivational affixes, namely: ing, ing, -y, ing, ian, ion. In some words, in English, if you add the ending -ing at the end of the word, the meaning of the word will change.
5. The song titled “Boys In The Street”, in this song there are 10 derivational affixes, including: ing, -ry, -ly, re-, -er, -ing, -ly, ing, ing, ly.
6. The song titled “Goodbye, Again”, in this song there are 8 derivational affixes, as follow: -er, -ly, -ing, ing, pre-, -ly, -ly and -ing.
7. The song titled “Biblical”, in this song there are 4 derivational affixes, as follow: -ity, a-, -st, and -ical. If you add these morphemes to a basic word, the word will change the word or the meaning of the word.

B. Inflectional Morpheme

An inflectional morpheme involves the formation or addition of words without altering their word class or meaning, but instead making modifications solely in the grammatical structure based on the context. Here are some examples of inflectional morphemes that change the form of the word without altering the meaning of the base word that the writer found in the lyrics of the Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges”.

No	The title song	Many of Inflectional morphemes	Inflectional morphemes
1.	“Flaws”	8	reasons, flaws, looking, got, sometimes, eyes, hiding, things.
2.	“You Are The Reason”	7	goes, losing, breathing, broken, hands, keeps, closer.
3.	“If You Ever Change Your Mind”	17	rooms, words, laid, wished, stayed, needing, pulled, pain’s, saying, fingertips, moving, thinking, made, keeping, hits, lights, held.
4.	“Rise”	16	staring, thinking, made, standing, hiding, shadow, wondering, begins, got, sleeves, rolled, heart’s, thumping, pushing, looking, eyes.
5.	“Boys In The Street”	22	younger, told, wanted, friends, kissing, boys, tried, embarrassing, being, worked, older, daddy’s, heart’s, warmer, made, realized, lying, smiling, fighting, taught, women, gone.
6.	“Goodbye, Again”	23	seen, cried, tears, turned, lovers, enemies, years, spent, dodging, bars, nights, trying, scars, hits, holding, asking, safer, eats, keeps, months, getting, killing, kills.
7.	“Biblical”	6	left, demons, found, eyes, pieces, clouds.

1. The song titled “Flaws”, in this song found some inflectional suffixes that it added to words to convey grammatical information without significantly changing the word's meaning or its part of speech, for example”
 - a. In the word “reasons”, the base word is “reason” as a verb and the suffix “s” serves as a plural which function as a plural without changing the meaning. There are 8 inflectional suffixes, as follow: -s, -s, -ing, -s, -s, -ing, -s. In the song “flaws” there is an irregular verb, namely ‘got’. The base form of got is ‘get’ and ‘got’ is the second form of the verb, while the third form is ‘gotten’
2. The song titled “You Are The Reason”, There are 7 inflectional suffixes, such as: -es, -ing, -ing, -en, -s, -s, -er. And the word “lose” when it added “ing” in the ending of word lose. The final “e” in “lose” is dropped before adding the “ing” ending. This dropping of the “e” is a common rule in english grammar for verbs that end with “e” when adding the “-ing” ending.
3. The song titled “If You Ever Change Your Mind” There are 17 inflectional suffixes, such as: -s, -s, -ed, -ed, -ing, -ed, ‘s, -ing, -s, -ing, -ing, -ing, -s, -s. there are two irregular verbs in this song: “lay” (laid, laid) and “hold” (held, hold). An irregular verb is a verb in the English language that doesn’t follow the standard conjugation patterns to create past tense and past participle forms.
4. The song titled “Rise”, There are 15 inflectional affixes, such as: ing, ing, ing, ing, -s, ing, -s, -s, ed, ‘s, ing, ing, ing and -s. there are several irregular verbs in the song “Rise”, including: make (made, made) and get (got, gotten).
5. The song titled “Boys In The Street”, there are 22 inflectional affixes, such as: -er, -ed, -s, -ing, -s, -ed, -ing, -ing, -ed, -er, ‘s, ‘s, -er, -d, ing, ing, ing and ing. In the inflectional affixes, there are several irregular verbs, including: tell (told, told), teach (taught, taught), go (went, gone).
6. The song titled “Goodbye, Again”, there are 23 inflectional affixes, such as: -n, -ed, -s, ed, -s, -ies, -s, -ing, -s, -s, -ing, -s. -s, -ing, -ing, -er, -s, -s, -s, -ing, -ing, and -s. and there is one irregular verb in the song “Goodbye, Again”, including: spend (spent, spent).
7. The song titled “Biblical”, there are 6 inflectional affixes, including: -s, -s, -s, -s and -s. there is one irregular verbs in the song “Biblical”, as follow: leave (left, left).

In 7 songs in the album “Bridge” from Calum Scott’s songs. There are 50 derivational morphemes found in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges” that change the meaning from base word or word class as follows: 16 of verb to noun, 12 of verb to adjective, 1 of adjective to noun, 3 of noun to adjective, 3 of adjective to adverb, 4 of adjective to adjective, 3 of noun to verb, 1 adjective to noun, 2 of verb to verb, 2 of noun to noun, 1 of adverb to preposition, 1 of preposition to adverb, 1 of adjective to preposition

Meanwhile, there were 99 inflectional morphemes that found in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges”. The inflectional does not change the meaning of its base word, while the added word is used to follow the rules derived from grammar and the usage of that word as follows: 28 of plural, 10 of past perfect, 15 of past tense, 5 of comparative, 4 of possessive, 8 of third-person singular, 10 of gerund or noun and 19 of progressive.

4. Conclusion

Based on the result and discussion above, it can be concluded that Derivational and inflectional morphemes are types of bound morphemes. Bound morphemes cannot function as independent words and must be combined with other morphemes to convey meaning. A derivational morpheme can be referred to as an addition to words, whether they are prefix or suffix, that create new words and change the word class. On the other hand, inflectional morpheme can be considered as an addition to words that do not alter the basic meaning of the base word, but rather follow the rules of grammar and word usage. In this research, the writer has identified several morphemes present in the lyrics of Calum Scott’s songs in the album “Bridges”. there are 50 derivational morphemes and there are 99 inflectional morphemes. In derivations, 21 types of affixes are discovered, including prefixes such as re-, pre-, a-, sur- and suffixes such as -ent, -le, -ion, -ful, -less, -ing, -ly, -ain, -ed, -ness, -ment, -y, -ry, -er, -ty, -st, and -ical. Furthermore, there are 8 types of inflectional morphemes, namely plural, past tense, past perfect, comparative, possessive, third-person singular, gerund, and progressive.

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