
THE DERIVATIONAL ADJECTIVES IN “*THE NEW YORK TIMES*”

Ni Luh Novita Sari Jayanti^{1*}, Ni Luh Kt. Mas Indrawati², Yana Qomariana³

^[123]English Department Faculty Of Arts, Udayana University

¹[niluhnovitasarijayanti@gmail.com] ²[mas.indrawati@yahoo.com]

³[yqomariana@gmail.com]

**Corresponding Author*

Abstrak

Skripsi ini berjudul “The Derivational Adjectives in the “New York Times”. Judul penelitian ini dipilih karena beberapa kata diproduksi dari proses morfologi yaitu memberikan akhiran pada dasar kata. Menguasai aturan ini dapat memberikan pemahaman bagaimana memproduksi kata baru dan membedakan kelas kata. Skripsi ini membahas tipe tipe dan posisi dari kata sifat derivatif yang ditemukan di artikel. Data diambil dari beberapa artikel tahun 2015 di koran online New York Times. Metode pengumpulan data adalah metode dokumentasi yaitu mengumpulkan kata-kata sifat derivatif dan menabelkan berdasarkan akhiran pembentuk kata sifat. Sedangkan metode yang digunakan dalam menganalisa data adalah metode deskripsi kualitatif. Teori utama yang digunakan adalah teori dari Quirk, et al (1985) pada bukunya berjudul “A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language”. Hasil dari analysis menunjukkan bahwa akhiran –al,-able, -ous, -ive, -ent, -ous, -ly, -y, -less, -ful, -ic yang dilampirkan pada akhiran dasar kata dapat mengubah kelas kata dari kata benda dan kata kerja menjadi kata sifat. Analisa sintaksis menemukan bahwa kata sifat derivatif mempunyai posisi sebagai predikatif yang memodifikasi subyek dan posisi sebagai atributif.

Kata Kunci: *Akhiran, Derivasi, Kata Sifat*

1. Background of the Study

A word may be formed by one or more morphemes. Morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning that cannot be divided into smaller unit. Morphology is the study of word structure (Katamba, 1993: 19). Derivation is one of the word formation processes which can change the word class, meanwhile inflectional morpheme cannot change it. Derivational process means the formation of word of certain word classes into another word class by adding suffixes. This thesis is concerned with the analysis of the adjectives derived from other word classes and their syntactical functions. This study used the theory proposed by Quirk, et al (1985) to analyze the derivational process of adjectives in English words and the syntactical functions of adjectives. Quirk, et al (1985:418) stated that the adjective has three positions; they are predicative, attributive and post positive.

Furthermore, many people are still confused when differentiating word class. This study is interesting and may benefit the learners, because it can enrich and widen the vocabulary of the learners by deriving words and also the learners may have good knowledge as to how differentiate the word class. Thus this study is concerned with the analysis of the derivational adjectives in *New York Times*.

2. Problems of the Study

- a. What derivational adjectives are found in the articles of *New York Times*?
- b. In what syntactical positions do they occur in clauses?

3. Aims of the Study

- a. To identify and analyze the derivational suffixes forming adjectives
- b. To explain the syntactical positions at the level of clauses containing derivational adjectives.

4. Research Method

The main data were taken from e-newspaper in *www.nytimes.com*. There are 1 article taken on Oct 2nd 2015, 9 articles taken on Oct 5th 2015, 4 articles on Oct 6th 2015, and 1 article taken on Oct 9th 2015. The articles were selected randomly. Documentation method and note taking technique were the methods which were applied to collect the data by downloading 15 articles first, then collecting derivational adjectives and the last was grouping and tabling the adjectives based on suffixes which form the adjectives. The method applied to analyze the data was the descriptive qualitative method. First, the data were classified based on the suffixes forming them and then, analyzing the process of suffixes forming the adjectives. Next, the clauses or phrases which contain derivational adjectives were found. The last step was analyzing the syntactical positions of Adjectives.

5. Result and Discussion

5.1. Derivational Process

a. Suffix –able

- Valuable

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 133)

The base of the word “valuable” is *value* (noun). The resulting word is derived from the noun to which the suffix –able is attached which makes the class word change into adjective.

b. Suffix –ive

- Administrative

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 171)

The word “administrative” is derived from the verb ‘administrate’. The suffix –ive is attached *administrate*, causing the word to change into the adjective “administrative”.

c. Suffix –ent

- Persistent

(Gretchen, R. *Ask Well: When Sitting can be Good for You*. Oct 5th 2015: Line 1)

The base of the word “persistent” is *persist* and the class word is verb. Persistent means being determined to do something despite difficulties (A.S.Hornby, 2010: 1092).

d. Suffix –al

- National

(Hiroko Tabuchi, *American Apparel Files For Bankruptcy*, Oct 5th 2015: Line 22)

The base of the word “national” is *nation* which has the word class noun. After the suffix –al is attached to the base, then the resulting word class becomes an adjective, “national”.

e. Suffix – ous

- Infectious

(Jane Perlez. *Answering an Appeal by Mad Led Tu Youyou, a Chinese Scientist, to a Nobel Prize*. Oct 6th 2015: Line 23)

The base of the word “infectious” is *infect* and the word class is verb. The suffix –ous attached to *infect* makes the word class change into an adjective, *infectious*. Infect means to make a disease or an illness spread to a person, an animal or a plant (A.S.Hornby, 2010: 768).

f. Suffix – less

- Worthless

(*Oregon Killer's Mother Wrote of Troubled Son and Gun Rights*. Oct 5th 2015: Line 58)

The base of the word “worthless” is *worth* (noun). The derivational adjective derived from a noun to which the suffix –less is attached. The word class changes into an adjective called denominal adjective.

g. Suffix – y

- Lengthy

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 109)

As an adjective, the base of the word “lengthy” is the noun *length*. After the suffix –y is attached to the base “length”, the word class changes into an adjective and the process is called denominal adjective.

h. Suffix – ful

- Graceful

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 186)

The base of the word “graceful” is *grace* which belongs to the word class noun. The suffix –ful attached to the base *grace* changes the grammatical category of the resulting word into an adjective.

i. Suffix – ic

- Horrific

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 33)

The base of the word “horrific” is the verb, *horrify*. The change of the word class from verb into adjective is caused by the attachment of suffix –ic to the base “horrify”. The word class changes from a verb into an adjective called deverbal adjective.

j. Suffix – ish

- Jewish

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 174)

The base of the word “Jewish” is *Jew*, a noun. The adjective is formed by attaching the suffix –ish to the base *Jew* which makes the word class change from a noun into an adjective.

k. Suffix – ly

- Leisurely

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 223)

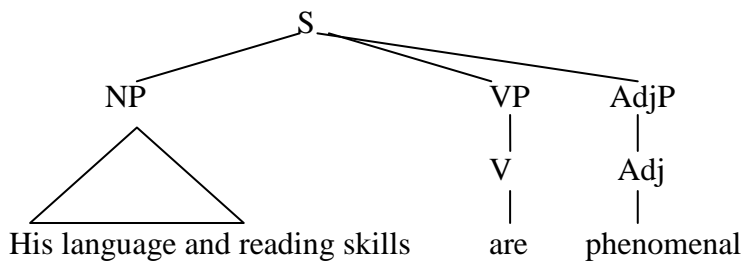
The base of the word “leisurely” is the noun *leisure*. The change of the word class from a noun into an adjective is caused by the attachment of the suffix –ly to the base and it is called denominal adjective.

5.2. The Positions of Adjectives

a. Predicative

- His language and reading skills are *phenomenal*.

(Jack, Mike & Julie., *Oregon Killer's Mother Wrote of Troubled Son and Gun Rights*.
Oct 5th 2015: Line 81)

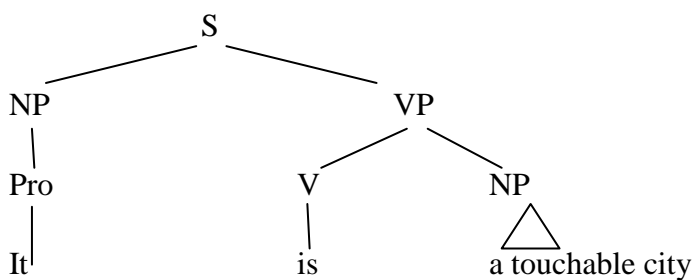


This simple sentence above shows that *phenomenal* as a derivational adjective has the position as a predicative since it appears after the verb “are” and it functions as the subject complement that modifies, as described as follows.

b. Attributive

- It is a *touchable* city.

(Reif Larsen. *Sarajevo's Enduring Optimism*. Oct 2nd 2015: Line 22)



The simple sentence above that has the structure S – V - O, the word “touchable” functions as an attributive adjective and, in this case, it premodifies the head of noun, city. As shown above since it appears after the determiner and followed by a noun.

6. Conclusion

The analysis showed that the derivational suffixes include suffix –al,-able, -ous, -ive, -ent, -ous, -ly, -y, -less, -ful, -ic which are attached to the bases, making the word class change from noun and verb into adjective. The change of the word class from a noun into an adjective is called denominal adjective; meanwhile, the change from a verb into an adjective is called deverbal adjective. The discussion found that derivational adjectives have the position as predicative that modifies the subject and can take the position as attributive or noun modifier. Predicative adjective is the function as a subject complement which describes the subject. Meanwhile, attributive functions to modify the head of the noun phrase.

7. Bibliography

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