

Compound Word Formation in “The Old Man and The Sea”

I Made Yoga Dwi Angga^{1*}, Ida Ayu Made Puspani²
English Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University
¹[yoga.d.angga@gmail.com], ²[dayupuspani@gmail.com]
**Corresponding author*

Abstract

This study is entitled Compound Word Formation in “The Old Man and The Sea”. This study focuses on two problems; types of compound words found in the novel and the semantic transparency they possess. The aims of this study are to find out the types of compound words and also to find and describe the semantic transparency of the compound words found in the novel. The data source used in this study is a novel written by Ernest Hemmingway entitled The Old Man and The Sea. The data which were compound words were collected by using documentation method whereas to analyze the data by using descriptive qualitative method. There were three theories used in this study. The main theories are proposed by O’Grady (1996) about the types of the compound and by Katamba (1993) about classifying the data. The theory proposed by Libben (1998) was used to describe the semantic transparency of the compound words. The results show that the types of compound words found in the novel are endocentric compound and exocentric compounds. However, the endocentric compound was more frequent than the exocentric compound. Based on the second problem, there are four types of semantic transparency ;they are (1) transparency of both members of the compound, (2) transparency of the head member – opacity of the non-head member, (3) transparency of the non-head member – opacity of the head member, (4) opacity of both members of the compound.

Keywords: compound word, semantic transparency, word formation

Abstrak

Penelitian ini berjudul “Formasi Kata Majemuk pada novel “The Old Man and The Sea”. Penelitian focus pada dua pokok permasalahan; tipe - tipe kata majemuk yang ditemukan pada novel dan transparansi semantik yang dimiliki kata majemuk tersebut. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan tipe – tipe kata majemuk dan juga menemukan serta mendeskripsikan transparansi semantik dari kata majemuk yang terdapat pada novel tersebut. Sumber data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah sebuah novel karya Ernest Hemmingway berjudul *The Old Man and The Sea*. Data dari penelitian ini didapatkan melalui metode dokumentasi dan dianalisis secara kualitatif dan deskriptif. Terdapat tiga teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini, pertama teori dari O’Grady (1996) mengenai tipe – tipe kata majemuk, kedua teori dari Katamba (1993) mengenai klasifikasi data dan, terakhir dari Libben (1998) untuk mendeskripsikan transparansi semantik dalam kata majemuk. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa tipe – tipe kata majemuk yang ditemukan didalam novel adalah endosentrik dan eksosentrik. Namun, kata majemuk endosentrik muncul lebih banyak dibandingkan dengan eksosentrik. Berdasarkan permasalahan kedua, terdapat empat tipe transparansi semantik, yaitu; (1) transparansi dari kedua anggota kata majemuk, (2) transparansi dari inti kata – ketidakjelasan dari bukan inti kata, (3) transparansi dari

bukan inti kata – ketidakjelasan dari inti kata, (4) ketidakjelasan dari kedua anggota kata majemuk.

Kata kunci: formasi kata, kata majemuk, transparansisemantik.

1. Background of the study

Morphology is a branch of linguistics studying forms of words. Morphology can be said as a helping branch for languages in multiplying their vocabulary. For instance, the compound word “lamplight” is the combination of the word “lamp” and “light”. Anderson, (1992: 24) stated “morphology is the branch of linguistics that studies patterns of word formation within and across languages, and attempts to formulate rules that model the knowledge of the speakers of those languages”.

Since morphology is simply the study of word formation, there are many processes of word formations. O’Grady divided word formation processes into six categories; affixation, cliticization, internal change, suppletion, reduplication, and compounding. Compounding is the combination of lexical categories (nouns, adjectives, verbs, or prepositions) to create a larger word. There are two types of compound word; endocentric and exocentric. These two types of compound word would be analyzed based on their “head”, components, and meaning.

Endocentric compounds are by far preferred to exocentric compounds in the languages of the world, because they allow much easier access to the head (Libben, 2006). On the other hand, exocentric compound is a compound which lacks a head word; that is why this kind of compound word is also known as *headless compound*. Adams (2013) illustrates the term exocentric which describes expressions in which no part seems to be of the same kind as the whole or to be central to it.

It led to the fact that it is interesting to find out the relationship between semantic transparency and the compound word itself, since it is mentioned in Katamba’s Morphology that it is impossible to work out what exocentric compound means from the sum of the meanings of its constituents (Katamba, 1993). The novel was chosen as the data source because it is relevant since fictional literary works such as novel provides many compound words, and authors of novel are very fond of playing words and combining them into new words.

2. Problems of the study

- a) What types of compound word formation are found in “The Old Man and The Sea”?
- b) What types of semantic transparency of compound word are found in “The Old Man and The Sea”?

3. Aims of the study

- a) To find out and explain the types of compound word formation occurring in “The Old Man and The Sea”.
- b) To find out and explain the types of semantic transparency of compound word found in “The Old Man and The Sea”.

4. Research Method

Research method deals with the methods used in designing this study. This section of research method provides four aspects needed to make this study structural.

4.1. Data Source

The data of this study is a novel written by Ernest Hemmingway entitled “The Old Man and The Sea”. “The Old Man and The Sea” is awarded as the winner of

Pulitzer Prize of Fiction in 1953. This novel was chosen as the data source because; first, fictional literary work (novel) has many compound words since the authors are very fond of playing word and combining them into new words. Second, this novel is well-known by people and it is expected to help the readers easier to understand English compound word found in the novel because the meaning of the compound word would be provided.

4.2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data

The data were collected by using a documentation method. The data were limited to the compound words found in "The Old Man and The Sea" by Ernest Hemmingway. The techniques used in collecting the data are; firstly reading the novel carefully, secondly finding and collecting the data in the novel based on the problems being discussed, then classifying them based on their types and semantic transparency.

4.3. Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

The method used in this study was descriptive qualitative method. First the data were identified by using note taking technique. Next, the data were classified based on the problems. Lastly, the data were analyzed based on theory proposed by O'Grady (1996) and Katamba (1993) to classify the data, followed by a theory proposed by Libben (1998) to describe the semantic transparency of the compound words.

4.4. Method and Technique of Presenting The Result of Data Analysis

The analyzed data were presented in informal method. In presenting the data, this study used tree diagram to support the analysis. The data were analyzed

based on their component using a tree diagram in order to find the type of compound word. After classifying the type of compound words, the next step would be looking at their semantic transparency by explaining it descriptively.

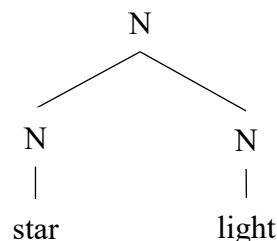
For example:

Word : Starlight

Meaning : the light produced by stars

Sentence : "The dolphin was cold and a leprous gray-white now in the **starlight** and the old man skinned one side of him while he held his right foot on the fish's head."

Components :



The word *starlight* is a noun compound formed from two word elements. Those two word elements are from the same categories star (N) + light (N). The word *star* means any one of the objects in space that are made of burning gas and that look like points of light in the night sky and the word *light* means something that makes vision possible. After they are combined, they become a new word *starlight* (noun). The meaning of the word *starlight* is the light produced by stars; it means that the head *light* is parallel with the modifier *star*. Therefore, this is the kind of **endocentric compound**.

5. Result and Discussion

5.1. Types of Compound Word

5.1.1. Endocentric Compound

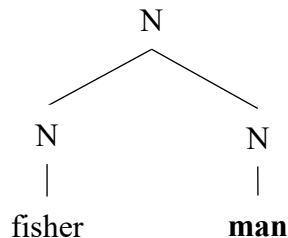
1) Compound Noun

Word : Fisherman

Meaning : Person who catches fish. It refers to Santiago, an aging Cuban fisherman.

Sentence : “You were born to be a **fisherman** as the fish was born to be a fish.” (Hemmingway, 1952: 29)

Components :



The first noun compound which is going to be analyzed is *fisherman*. The word *fisherman* is formed from two word elements. Those word elements are from the same categories *fisher* (N) and *man* (N). The word *fisher* means one who fishes while the word *man* means an individual human. After they are combined, they become a new word *fisherman* (noun). The meaning of the word *fisherman* is a person who catches fish. From its meaning it can be seen that the head is *man* which is modified by the word *fisher*. Therefore, the word *fisherman* is an **endocentric compound**.

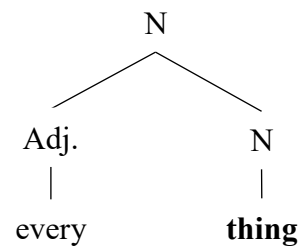
2) Compound Adjective

Word : Everything

Meaning : Everything there is: all that exists

Sentence : “Besides, he thought, **everything** kills **everything** else in some way.” (Hemmingway, 1952: 30)

Components :



The next noun compound which is going to be analyzed is *everything*. The word *everything* is formed from two word elements. Unlike the previous data, this data is formed from different categories which are adjective (*every*) and noun (*thing*). The word *every* means being each individual or part of a group without exception, while the word *thing* means an object or entity not precisely designated or capable of being designated. After they are combined, they become a new word *everything* (noun). From the meaning of each element, it can be seen that the meaning of the word *everything* is parallel with its elements. Therefore, the word *everything* is an **endocentric compound**.

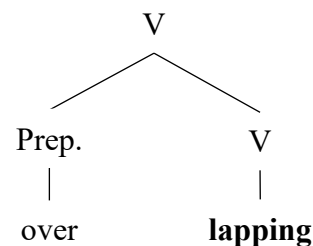
3) Compound Verb

Word : Overlapping

Meaning : to lie over the edge of (something): to cover part of the edge of (something)

Sentence : “On the brown walls of the flattened, **overlapping** leaves of the sturdy fibered guano”

Components :



The word *overlapping* is formed from two word elements. Those words are *over* and *lapping*. The word *over* means on top of something, while *lapping* means to fold over especially into layers. From those two elements it can be seen that the meaning of the word *overlapping* is parallel with its elements, and also the head which is *lapping* percolates the entire compound. Therefore, this kind of word is an **endocentric compound**.

5.1.2. Exocentric Compound

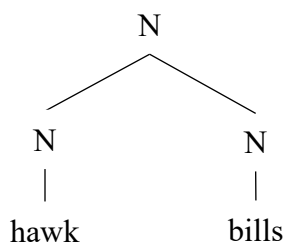
1) Compound Noun

Word : Hawk-bills

Meaning : The hawkbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*) is a critically endangered sea turtle belonging to the family Cheloniidae. This turtle is loved by the old man.

Sentence : "He loved green turtles and **hawk-bills** with their elegance and speed and..." (Hemmingway, 1952: 9)

Components :



The compound noun *hawk-bills* is formed from two word elements which are *hawk* and *bills*. The word *hawk* means any of numerous diurnal birds of prey belonging to a suborder and including all the smaller members of this group, and the word *bills* means the jaws of a bird together with their horny covering. Together they form the word *hawk-bills*, which refers to a certain species of turtle. Even though the elements of the

compound have a head and a modifier, the word *hawk-bills* is not a kind of bills rather than it is a certain species of a turtle, therefore, it is an **exocentric compound**.

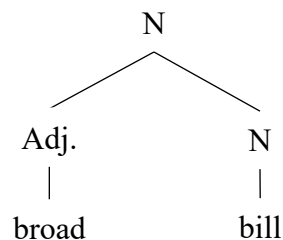
2) Compound Adjective

Word : Broadbill

Meaning : Swordfish, also known as broadbills in some countries, are large, highly predatory, highly predatory fish characterized by a long, flat bill.

Sentence : "It could have been a marlin or a **broadbill** or a shark (Hemmingway, 1952: 14)

Components :



The compound word *broadbill* consists of two word elements, which are the word *broad* (Adj.) and the word *bill* (N). The definition of the word *broad* means large from one side to the other side, while the word *bill* means the jaws of a bird together with their horny covering. After they are combined they become a new word *broadbill*. The word *broadbill* which refers to a certain kind of fish does not parallel with its constituents, *broad* and *bill*, as the meaning is opaque. Consequently, the compound word *broadbill* is an **exocentric compound**.

3) Compound Verb

There was no compound verb data found in the novel, it is neither a preposition followed by a verb nor verb followed by preposition.

5.2. Types of Semantic Transparency

1) Transparency of both members of the compound

Word : Fisherman

Meaning : person who catches fish. It refers to Santiago, an aging Cuban fisherman.

The word *fisherman* is transparent both of its constituents, because the word *fisher* means one that fishes while *man* means an individual human. Both of its constituents match with the meaning of the word *fisherman* above. So, the word *fisherman* is fully transparent

2) Transparency of the head member – opacity of the non-head member

Word : Man-of-war bird

Meaning : Frigatebirds are family of seabirds called fregatidae which are found across all tropical and subtropical oceans. This bird helps the old man locate the location of the fish.

The word that determines the whole compound in this data is *bird* because the word *man-of-war bird* refers to a certain type of bird; therefore, the head is *bird*, and it is transparent. On the other hand, the meaning of the hyphenated non-head member *man-of-war* is opaque, because the characteristics of the mentioned bird have no relation with the word *man-of-war*. Therefore, this word is considered as transparency of the head member – opacity of the non-head member.

3) Transparency of the non-head member – opacity of the head member

Word : Clear-headed

Meaning : having or showing an ability to think clearly.

The only transparency of the non-head member and opacity of the head

member that can be found in this novel is *clear-headed*. The head *headed* which determines the whole compound in this data is opaque, because the word *headed* in this context means the mind or the ability to think not the head. In contrast, the non-head member is transparent because the word *clear* which means free from doubt and confusion matches with the meaning of the word *clear-headed* above.

4) Opacity of both members of the compound

Word : Loggerheads

Meaning : The loggerhead sea turtle (*caretta caretta*) is an oceanic turtle belonging to the family Cheloniidae. This turtle is disliked by the old man.

The word *loggerheads* is opacity of both constituents because the constituents of this compound are opaque. It can be seen from the meaning of the word *loggerheads* above that have neither relation with *loggernorheads*, rather than it refers to a species of an oceanic turtle.

6. Conclusion

Based on the discussion in Chapter 3, it was found that compound words can be classified into two types which are endocentric compound and exocentric compound, and every compound has a different type of semantic transparency.

The finding of the discussion answering the first problem of this study, was to find the types of compound word found in *The Old Man and The Sea* novel. The result is that there are two types of compound words according to its *head*, whether the compound has a head or not. The endocentric can be located from its head that mostly on the right part of the constituents, in which it determines the whole compound. On the other hand, exocentric is also known as *headless* compound, having no head,

because none of its constituents that can determine the meaning of the whole compound. As known, the endocentric compound was far more plenty in number compared to exocentric compound, and that also happened in this research that exocentric is fewer than endocentric.

The second problem was to find the types of semantic transparency of the compound words in *The Old Man and The Sea* novel. From the discussion above, it can be seen that there are four types of semantic transparency based on Libben (1998); they are; (1) transparency of both members of the compound, (2) transparency of the head member – opacity of the non-head member, (3) transparency of the non-head member – opacity of the head member, (4) opacity of both members of the compound.

Moreover, based on the discussion above that the semantic transparency is related to the type of the compound word. It can be seen that all of the endocentric compounds have transparency of both members, while exocentric can be on other three types of semantic transparency, but most of them are opacity of both members of the compound.

References

- Adams, Valerie. (2014). *Complex Words in English*. Routledge, Abingdon.
- Anderson, Stephen R. (1992). *A-Morphous Morphology*. CUP, Cambridge.
- Hemmingway, Ernest. (1952). *The Old Man and The Sea*. Scribner, New York.
- Katamba, F. (1993). *Morphology*. Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke.
- Libben, G. (1998). Semantic Transparency in the Processing of Compounds: Consequences for Representation, Processing, and Impairment. *Brain and Language*. Vol. 61, pp30-34.
- Libben, G., Jarema G. (2006). *The Representation and Processing of Compound Words*. Oxford University Press, New York.
- O'Grady, W. and Guzman V. P. (1996). *Morphology: the analysis of word structure*. Yale University Press, New Haven.