

**THE FUNCTIONS OF DERIVATIONAL SUFFIXES IN INSPIRATIONAL BOOK
WRITTEN BY MARIA AND ELIZABETH RAHAJENG "BECOMING
UNSTOPPABLE"**

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Abstract:

This study focuses on the derivational suffixes found in Maria and Elizabeth Rahajeng's book "Becoming Unstoppable." The study encourages further exploration and understanding of derivational suffixes, by comprehending what is the function derivational suffixes, individuals can enhance the language skills and improve communication. The study identifies and explains the derivational suffixes using the theories proposed by (Lieber, 2009) and (Carstairs-McCarthy, 2002), shedding light on the process involved. Both formal and informal methods were used to describe the study's findings. The writer identified three forms of derivational suffix functions: category-changing lexeme formation, meaning-changing lexeme formation, and both category and meaning-changing lexeme creation. The process of derivational suffixes was described using labeling and bracketing. From the outcome, a total of 159 data were identified, with the main type function being category-changing lexeme formation 129 data, followed by both category-meaning changing formation 30 data. However, meaning-changing lexemes were not found in the data source. This study underscores the significance of morphological terms in language, as they facilitate the creation of new words from diverse languages and word forms.

Keywords: *Becoming Unstoppable; Derivational suffixes; Function*

INTRODUCTION

Linguistics refers to the study of language. Linguistics is the study of language at the sound form, morpheme, word, phrase, clause, and sentence levels (Katamba, 1994). Linguistics, as a discipline, is separated into several divisions, including phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and morphology. According to (Matthews, 1991), morphology is simply a name for a field of linguistics concerned with the forms of words in multiple contexts and structures. Morphology is like the makeup of words in a language. It's about how words are formed from smaller units called morphemes. Morphemes are like building blocks that give words their meaning. Morphology also can lead someone to understand how words change to show things like tense past, present, gender, and even how word fit into sentences like changing a verb into its past tense form. Morphology is the study to understand how words change to express different meanings or forms, like adding prefixes or suffixes.

During the process of forming lexemes, three potential outcomes can occur. One possibility is the alteration of a word's category or part of speech. This involves transforming verbs into nouns or adjectives, and nouns into verbs, as described by (Lieber, 2009). Category-changing lexeme formation refers to the positions of derivational suffixes to create new lexemes by altering the part of speech or category of a word. For instance, the change from a verb to a noun is illustrated in the transformation of *understate* to *understatement*. This example highlights the capacity of derivational suffixes to modify a base word's part of speech while retaining its core meaning. In Meaning-changing lexeme formation category, another aspect of lexeme formation, the alteration of meaning takes precedence. In specific cases, lexeme generation rules may not impact the word's category, yet they impart substantial new meaning, as outlined by (Lieber, 2009). For instance, in the transition from *wash* to *rewash*, the action is reiterated, resulting in a shift in underlying meaning. However, this alteration does not influence the part of speech of the word. Furthermore, the Both Category and Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation, according to (Lieber, 2009) derivational suffixes have the ability to produce new lexemes by changing the category and creating new meaning, for example Verb derived noun in the word *provide* become *provider*, by adding the suffix *-er* this construction process can provide the base a new meaning as well as a new category.

The similar studies had been conducted by (Rachmadi et al., 2021) conducted a study titled "Function of Derivational Affixes in Novel *The Hobbit*," which mirrored the current study. The primary aim of their study was to uncover the roles of Derivational affixes. A key disparity between their work and the present study is the focus on affixes meanwhile, the current study focus on suffixes. The article, based on 27 data revealed that the most frequent type of derivational affix is the adjectival category derived from verbs. Another study, authored by explored (Andadari et al., 2021) Derivational Affixes observed in Instagram posts from the account @poemsporn_. This study concentrated on identifying types of derivational functions and affixes. Their approach was rooted in Brinton's (2010) theory and supporting by Katamba (1994) theory. In contrast, on the current study draws on Lieber's (2009) theory, with McCarthy's (2002) complementary theory, to analyze the process of derivational suffixes through the Labelled & Bracketing model.

The last related article by (Rahmawati et al., 2021) entitled Derivational Suffixes Forming Noun from Verb found in *Revenge Wears Prada* novel: A Morphological Study. The differences can be obtained from the earlier studies with the current study is the theory of this study used theory by Plag (2003) and the current study is used theory by Lieber (2009) to analyze the function of derivational suffixes. This study found 236 data using suffixes which form noun from verb.

The book *Becoming Unstoppable* (Maria & Elizabeth Rahajeng, 2018) is chosen as the data source because the content inside the book is easy to be understood and has valuable lessons to learn. The inspirational book "Becoming Unstoppable" written by Maria & Elizabeth Rahajeng, this book was published by PT. Elex Media Komputindo in 2018 divided into 10 chapters with 205 pages. Therefore, it is interesting to read because the book contain several of derivational suffixes and prefixes inside the sentence. The example of derivational process of suffixes can be found inside the book such as suffix *-ly* in the word *overwhelmingly*,

prefixes un- in the word unstoppable. The process of analyzing derivational suffixes is not easy to understand it is rather difficult, which is why many individuals are still confused about the form and purpose of derivational suffixes. By comprehending what is the function derivational suffixes, individuals can enhance the language skills and improve communication. Based on that explanation, the writer choose this topic because importance of evaluating the kind of functions derivational Suffixes in the book "Becoming Unstoppable" is specified.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To determine the functions of derivational suffixes and the process of derivational suffixes, the data was analyzed using descriptive qualitative and quantitative methods. Lieber's (2009) theory was utilized to examine the functions of derivational suffixes, there are 3 categories, Category-Changing Lexeme Formation, Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation and Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation. Whereas, McCarthy's (2002) theory is employed in this study to analyze the derivational process of suffixes. In order to analyze the process of derivational suffixes identified in the data source, the Labelled & Bracketing model was applied. The information was gathered in three stages:

1. Reading and comprehending the content of the book
2. Highlighting any words in "Becoming Unstoppable" that include derivational suffixes.
3. Classifying the derivational suffixes into their types

To present the results of this study, a combination of formal and informal methods was employed to elucidate the findings and communicate the approach used for data analysis. The formal method was used when the data was presented in a table format with clear labeling and bracketing. Conversely, the informal method was adopted when the data was provided in the form of phrases and descriptions. This approach allowed for a comprehensive portrayal of the data analysis outcomes.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Results from this study show that function of derivational suffixes occur in book "Becoming Unstoppable" presented by table below. There are several derivational suffixation functions, which are: lexeme formation that changes categories, lexeme formation that changes meanings, and lexeme formation that changes both categories and meanings. The table below shown the result from the book "Becoming Unstoppable" illustrates the overall function of the derivational suffixes identified in the data source.

No.	Functions of Derivational Suffixes	Suffixes	Occurrences	Percentage
1.		-ing	50	81%

	Category-Changing Lexeme Formation	-ity	35	129	
		-ion	12		
		-ize	10		
		-al	22		
2.	Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation		0		0
3.	Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation	-er	7	30	19%
		-less	5		
		-ic	4		
		-or	3		
		-ful	6		
		-able	5		
Total:			159		100%

Table 1. The Functions of Derivational Suffixes found in inspirational book “Becoming Unstoppable”

As shown in the table above, out of the 159 derivational suffixes that were discovered, 129 data were category-changing and 30 data were both category meaning-changing lexeme formations. The category-changing and both category-meaning altering lexeme formation processes are the most prevalent ones when analyzing the functions of derivational suffixes. However, the formation of meaning-changing lexemes was not found in the data source. The use of suffixes is particularly crucial for developing new vocabulary items and for exploring further into the study of morphology to improve our comprehension of word structure.

Based on the results above stated, this discussion employed a Labelled and Bracketing approach based on McCarthy's (2002) theory as well as Lieber's (2009) theory to assess the roles of the derivational suffixes that were detected in the data. The goal and source of the data are described, and the process of derivational suffixes may be evaluated using the descriptive qualitative method. The approach was used to offer a justification for the analysis of labelled & bracketing data. Below is a demonstration of the process.

1. Category- Changing Formation

Data 1 “But by the *beginning* of her third semester ... (Becoming Unstoppable, pg.1,5th line).

Beginning (Noun)

[[Begin]_v -ing]_n

The addition of the suffix -ing to the word "begin" has an impact on both its grammatical classification and its meaning. The modification shifts the word's original function as a verb to a noun. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the term *beginning* is derived from the fundamental word "begin," signifying the initiation of an action. The attachment of the suffix -ing results in the formation of *beginning*, referring to the instance when something commences – the initial phase of an event or narrative. In this transformation, the word *beginning* exemplifies a category-changing lexeme. The application of the suffix "-ing" alters

the word's grammatical category from a verb to a noun, yet the underlying meaning remains consistent. This process showcases how a word can undergo a shift in classification or part of speech, giving rise to a new lexeme.

Data 2 ... "love, harmony, **serenity**, strong bonds to family".... (Becoming Unstoppable, pg. 2, 8th line)

Serenity (Noun)

[[Serene]_{adj} - ity]_n

The incorporation of the suffix "-ity" into the word "serene" induces a shift in the grammatical category of the base word. This change results in the transformation of the word's original adjective form into a noun, accompanied by an alteration in meaning. Referring to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), "serenity" originates from "serene," conveying tranquility, and the suffix "-ity," suggesting a quality. By attaching "-ity" to "serene," "serenity" comes into being, encapsulating the attribute of peacefulness. This transformation serves as an illustration of Category-Changing Lexeme Formation, in which the adjective nature of the word shifts to that of a noun, while keeping the meaning the same. Because the word serenity is created from an adjective to a noun while keeping the same meaning, it is a part of **Category-Changing Lexeme Formation**.

Data 3 "Nenek didn't allow her lack of **education** to get in the way of working hard to provide the best she could for her family". (Becoming Unstoppable pg. 4 8th line)

Education (noun)

[[Educate]_v -ion]_n

Suffix -ion to the word education alters the word class of the word base educate. It transformed the word base's word class from verb to noun and so changed the meaning of the term. As expounded upon by the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), "education" emerges as a derivative of the foundational term *educate*, which intrinsically embodies the action of imparting knowledge to an individual, frequently transpiring within an academic framework and over a stipulated duration. The integration of the -ion suffix yields the word *education*, which because the word education is created from a verb to a noun while keeping the same meaning, it is a component of **Category-Changing Lexeme Formation**. By modifying the category or part of speech of a word, the word education creates a new lexeme.

Data 4 "we are **prioritize** the youngest one" (Becoming Unstoppable, pg. 23 5th line)

Prioritize (verb)

[[Priority]_n -ize]_v

The addition of the suffix -ize to the word prioritize alters the word class of the word base priority. It transformed the word base's word class from noun to verb and so modified the meaning of the term. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the word prioritize comes from the base word priority, which means something that you think is more important than other things and should be resolved first, then added by the suffix -ize to become prioritize means to arrange tasks, problems, and so on in order of importance, so that the most important things are dealt with first. The addition of the suffix -ize in the word prioritize changes the category of the word but keeps the same meaning. Because the word prioritize is created from a noun to a verb while keeping the same meaning, it is a component of **Category-Changing**

Lexeme Formation. By modifying the category or part of speech of the word, prioritizing introduces a new lexeme.

2. Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation

Data 5 “A *manager* at a local McDonald’s, and scored Dad his first job!” (Becoming Unstoppable pg.7 5th line)

Manager (noun)

[[Manage]_v -er]_n

In the word manager, the suffix -er modifies the word class of the word base manager. It transformed the word base's word class from verb to noun and so changed the meaning of the term. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the term manager is derived from the basic word manage, which meaning to control or be in charge of a business, a team, an organization, or land, followed by the suffix -er. Manager refers to the person in charge of operating a business. The addition of the suffix -er in the word manager affects the category and basic meaning of the term. As a result, the word manager has the **Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation** because the word manager's derivational suffix -er develops new lexemes by creating a change in part of speech or category of word and adding considerable new meaning.

Data 6 “.....he began to realize he was *homeless*, he had nowhere to go”. (Becoming Unstoppable pg.5 1st line)

Homeless (adjective)

[[Home]_n -less]_{adj}

The suffix -less in the term homeless alters the word class of the basic word house. It transformed the word base's word class from noun to adjective, as well as its meaning. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the word homeless comes from the basic word home, which implies the house or flat in which you live, followed by the suffix -less, which means having no home and hence generally living on the streets. The addition of the suffix -less to the term homeless alters its category and actual meaning. As a result, the word homeless has the **Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation** because the derivational suffix -less in the term homeless generates a new lexeme by creating a change in part of speech or category of word and adding major new meaning.

Data 7 “ I love a bright, classic,*optimistic* look”. (Becoming Unstoppable pg.156 2nd line)

Optimistic (Adjective)

[[Optimist]_n -ic]_{adj}

The word class of the word base optimist is altered by the suffix -ic in the word optimistic. It altered the meaning of the term and changed the word's word class from noun to adjective. According to Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the term optimistic is derived from the word

optimist, which implies a person who consistently hopes for the best or success. The suffix -ic was subsequently added. to adopt an optimistic outlook is to anticipate success or positive outcomes. The word optimistic changes in category and substantive meaning when the suffix -ic is added. Since the derivational suffix -ic in the word optimistic causes a change in part of speech or category of word and adds significantly new meaning, it has the **Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation**.

Data 8 “It comes to being a digital content *creator*”. (Becoming Unstoppable pg.163 1st line)

Creator (Noun)

[[Create]_v -or]_n

The word class of the word base create is altered by the suffix -or in the word creator. The word's meaning was altered as well as the term's word class, which was changed from verb to noun. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), the term "creator" is derived from the basic verb "to create," which means to bring about or bring into being. The suffix "-or" makes the word "creator" refer to a person who has created or produced a specific object. The word creator alters in terms of word category and substantive meaning when the suffix "-or" is added. As a result, the word creator has the **Both Category Meaning-Changing Lexeme Formation** since the derivational suffix -or causes a change in the word's category or part of speech as well as a significant addition of new meaning.

CONCLUSION

The study's findings and analysis led to the following conclusions: Derivational suffixes have three purposes, according to Lieber's (2009) theories: category-changing, meaning-changing, and both category and meaning-changing lexeme formation. McCarthy (2002) examined and clarified the derivational suffixes process using his theory. The most prevalent processes of derivational suffixes utilized in the book *Becoming Unstoppable* are category-changing and both category-meaning-changing processes. A total of 159 data derivational suffixes were found in the data source, of which 129 changed the category-changing lexeme formation and 30 changed the both category-meaning changing formation. However, the formation of meaning-changing lexemes was not found in the data source.

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