

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

People use language as a means of communication in order to share their desires, ideas, and opinions. The language they use can be in the form of words, phrases, clauses, sentences, or even discourses. Words, one kind of linguistic units, may be of basic and derived forms. Furthermore, a derived word could be constructed through some word formation processes, such as compounding, derivation, coinage, echoism, blending, clipping, acronymy, back formation, borrowing, antonomasia, reduplication, and conversion.

As a matter of fact, among those word formation processes, derivation is considered the most common in use. Derivation, as stated by Stageberg, is the forming of new words by combining affixes or bound bases with existing word (1977:127). Some bases require specific affixes, either prefixes or suffixes, to create new words. It means that some affixes may be attached only to certain bases to form new words, while the others are attached to some different bases.

One of the characteristics of derivation is that the addition of an affix to the base usually, but not always, changes the part of speech of the base. So, in derivation the derived word (or derivand) may or may not be of the same word class as the base (operand). For example, a noun may be derived from a verb, or a verb can be derived from a noun. Even, a noun could be derived from a noun, etcetera. The following may clarify the discussion above:

- (1) A little beach goes a long way, too, when you don't have to stress about wondering if you will be able to get your work done or about the battery on your laptop dying out on you *mid-sentence*, *mid-upload*, or simply *mid-morning*. (02/I/N/04)
- (2) He inadvertently *endangers* their lives as he attempts to smuggle a collection of sacred Buddhist texts out of Tibet. (39/I/V/48)
- (3) Johnny Chan, 52, who won back-to-back Main Events in 1987 and '88, has had such a long drought that the industry magazine Bluff recently called him "completely *irrelevant*" ouch. (30/I/A/ 34)
- (4) We must learn to use energy more *efficiently*. (133/I/AV/ 09)
- (5) Together we always deliver a perfect *performance*. (99/03/I/N/03)
- (6) After seeing the problems of violence, we *realize* that Tibetan culture is one of compassion and non violence. (125/I/V/06)

The nouns *mid-sentence*, *mid-upload*, and *mid-morning* in the sentence (1) are respectively derived from the bases *sentence*, *upload*, and *morning*. They are formed by attaching prefix *mid-* to *sentence*, *upload*, and *morning*, which are nouns as well. So, there is no class change in the word formations. In other words, both the operand and the derivand are of the same class. Next, the derived verb *endanger* in the sentence numbered (2) is constructed by attaching prefix *en-* to the noun base *danger*. In this case, there is a class change from noun (operand) into verb (derivand). Meanwhile, the adjective *irrelevant* in the sentence numbered (3) is formed by attaching prefix *ir-* to the adjective base *relevant*. Here, no class change occurs because both the operand and the derivand belong to

adjective. Further, the adverb *efficiently* in the sentence numbered (4) is constructed by attaching suffix *-ly* to the adjective base *efficient*. The word formation here causes a class change from adjective (the existing base) into adverb (the derived word). Likewise, the noun *performance* in the sentence numbered (5) is formed by attaching suffix *-ance* to the verb base *perform*. There happens a class change in the word formation, that is, from verb (derivand) into noun (operand). Then, the verb *realize* in the sentence numbered (6) is constructed by attaching suffix *-ize* to the adjective base *real*. A class change takes place in the word formation, namely from adjective into verb.

Besides, some certain affixes may serve double/ multiple function in derivational processes. In other words, an affix may be added to the bases of different classes to create derived words of the same class or an affix may be added to the bases of the same class to create derived words of different classes. For instance, the suffix *-dom* may be added to both the bases *king* (noun) and *free* (adjective) to form the derived words of the same class *kingdom* and *freedom*, which are nouns. Likewise, the suffix *-ful* may be attached to the bases of the same class *faith* (noun) and *mouth* (noun) to create the derived words of different classes *faithful* (adjective) and *mouthful* (noun).

The evidences above become a phenomenon. Therefore, it is interesting and challenging to investigate scientifically.

1.2 The Reason of Choosing the Topic

There are a lot of problems in studying linguistics. One of them is concerned with word formation, especially derivation. In this research, a study of derivation is chosen as the topic of discussion for some reasons. First of all, learners of English often face some difficulties in comprehending derivation. Besides, the topic bears many great problems to discuss in a research. Moreover, the researcher herself is eager to increase her understanding on the topic discussed. Hence, the research is considered relevant to conduct in order to get a significant solution on the problems.

1.3 The Statement of the Problem

In relation to the topic of discussion in this research, two problems are formulated. They are as follows:

1. What are the categories of the derived words and of their bases undergoing derivational processes in the *Time* magazine?
2. What affixes may serve double/multiple function in the derivational processes?

1.4 The Objective of the Study

In line with the statement of the problem, this research tries to answer those three questions as stated above, namely:

1. To determine the categories of the derived words and of their bases undergoing derivational processes in the *Time* magazine.

2. To reveal affixes which may serve double/multiple function in the derivational processes.

1.5 The Scope of the Study

This research deals with morphology. Morphology is the study of morphemes and their arrangement in forming word. The forming of word in English involves various processes. One of them is derivation. As stated earlier, this research is a study on derivational processes in English. So, it is concerned with Morphology. Derivational processes here are discussed in terms of the form classes of the derived words and the bases from which the words are derived, as well as the kinds of derivational affixes used in forming the new words. In addition, this research also focuses on affixes which may serve double/multiple function in the derivational processes.

1.6 The Significance of the Study

Generally, it is hoped that this research will give valuable contribution to the readers as well as to the researcher herself. By reading this work, the readers may have good understanding on the topic discussed, that is, the use of derivational affixes in English. Theoretically, this research can help the readers to enhance their ability in linguistics, especially English derivation. Besides, this research can help the researcher to master derivational affixes. Furthermore, it may encourage other researchers to do further researches on the same topic seen from different points of view.

1.7 The Meaning of Key Terms

To make the discussion in this researcher more comprehensively understandable, some key terms together with their meanings are presented below:

1. Word formation is a set of mechanism used for the creation of new words (Otto, 1958: 73)
2. Derivation is an affixational process that forms a word with a meaning and /or category distinct from that of its base. (O'Grady, 2005: 118)
3. Derived word is a word which has been attached by affixes. (Valerie,1973: 151)
4. Base is any form to which affixes of any kind can be added (Matthews, 1974: 165)
5. Affix is a letter or sound or group of letters or sounds (=morpheme) which is added to a word, and which changes the meaning or function of the word. (Richards, 1985: 07)
6. *Time* is an English magazine published weekly by Time Asia (Hongkong).