



An Analysis of Derivational Suffixes Found in CNN News: Entertainment Edition

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Abstract

This research explores how derivational suffixes alter the meaning and grammatical category of words. The study analyzed derivational suffixes found in CNN News: Entertainment Edition, focusing on their types and functions. A descriptive qualitative method was employed, which involved reading the articles multiple times, selecting words with suffixes, and applying note-taking techniques to organize the data. Plag's (2002) theory was used to classify the derivational suffixes identified. CNN News was selected due to its up-to-date content and its status as a globally popular media outlet, widely read by diverse audiences. The analysis revealed a total of 233 derivational suffixes, categorized into four types: 4 instances of verb suffixes, 88 instances of adverb suffixes, 79 instances of nominal suffixes, and 62 instances of adjective suffixes. The results showed that adverb suffixes were the most prevalent in CNN News: Entertainment Edition. This finding suggested that adverbial modification played a significant role in the language of entertainment news. The study underscored the importance of understanding suffixes in analyzing contemporary media language.

Keywords: *morphology, news, derivational suffix*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi bagaimana sufiks derivasional mengubah makna dan kategori gramatikal kata. Studi ini menganalisis sufiks derivasional yang ditemukan dalam CNN News: Entertainment Edition, dengan fokus pada jenis dan fungsinya. Metode kualitatif deskriptif diterapkan, yang melibatkan membaca artikel beberapa kali, memilih kata-kata dengan sufiks, dan menggunakan teknik pencatatan untuk mengorganisir data. Teori Plag (2002) digunakan untuk mengklasifikasikan sufiks derivasional yang teridentifikasi. CNN News dipilih karena kontennya yang terkini dan statusnya sebagai saluran media yang sangat populer secara global, dibaca oleh berbagai audiens. Analisis mengungkapkan total 233 sufiks derivasional, yang dikategorikan ke dalam empat jenis: 4 contoh sufiks kata kerja, 88 contoh sufiks kata keterangan, 79 contoh sufiks nominal, dan 62 contoh sufiks kata sifat. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa sufiks kata keterangan adalah yang paling umum ditemukan dalam CNN News: Entertainment Edition. Temuan ini mengisyaratkan bahwa modifikasi adverbial memainkan peran signifikan dalam bahasa berita hiburan. Penelitian ini menekankan pentingnya pemahaman sufiks dalam menganalisis bahasa media kontemporer.

Kata kunci: *morfologi, berita, sufiks derivasional*

Introduction

According to McCarthy (2002: 16), morphology is the study of word structure and its interrelationships. Affixation is a morphological process through which new words are formed by attaching bound morphemes, such as prefixes or suffixes, to a base word. This process is categorized into two main types: inflectional and derivational. Derivational morphology involves creating new word forms by adding affixes (either prefixes or suffixes) to a root. Katamba (1993: 44) noted that derivational affixes are used to create new lexemes, which are fundamental units of meaning in language. For instance, in English, derivational suffixes are added to the end of a stem to generate new words, often resulting in a change in the word's lexical category. For example, the adjective “sad” becomes the noun “sadness” when the suffix “-ness” is added.

Suffixes are groups of letters added to the end of a word or root to modify its meaning and are crucial for understanding the formation of new words. A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in language; it represents the smallest element in linguistics that conveys grammatical meaning. Morphemes are classified into bound and free morpheme. Free morphemes can stand alone with meaning, whereas bound morphemes cannot stand alone and must be attached to other morphemes to convey meaning. Adding a morpheme can create new words with different meanings and grammatical categories from the root. A derivational morpheme is used to create new words in a language and typically changes the part of speech from the original stem Yule (2006: 57). Derivational suffixes specifically involve forming new words by adding a suffix to an existing root. These suffixes appear in various types of texts, such as newspapers, magazines, novels, and songs.

Online news was selected for this research due to the declining readership of traditional newspapers and the decreasing frequency of magazine purchases. In today's digital age, smartphones have become integral to daily life, and music has emerged as a widely enjoyed activity among people of all ages, from children to adults. The focus of this research is on derivational morphemes because they exhibit more variability compared to inflectional morphemes. Derivational morphemes can alter both the grammatical category and the meaning of a word, providing a dynamic way to create new terms. In contrast, inflectional morphemes solely modify grammatical features, such as tense or number, without changing the fundamental category or meaning of the word.

Martin Haspelmath and Andrea D. Sims (2010: 86) defined derivational morphology as the process of affixing (prefixes, suffixes, and infixes) to a base word to create a new word with a distinct meaning or grammatical category. For example, adding the suffix “-ness” to the adjective “happy” results in the noun “happiness,” thereby changing the word's grammatical category from adjective to noun. This process differs from inflection, which involves modifying a word to express

grammatical features such as tense, number, or case while maintaining the original meaning and word category. For instance, appending “-s” to “cat” forms “cats,” indicating plurality without altering the word’s fundamental meaning or grammatical category.

Many previous studies have explored derivational suffixes, and this section reviews three of these studies. The first study, titled “Derivational Suffixes in Crazy Rich Asians Novel: A Morphological Analysis” by Narasuari and Rahayuni (2020), focuses on classifying and identifying the functions of derivational suffixes. The study analyzed data from Kevin Kwan’s novel *Crazy Rich Asians*. The collected data were analyzed using a documentation method and a qualitative approach, based on Plag’s (2002) theory of morphological study, specifically concerning suffixes. Additionally, the Merriam-Webster Dictionary was used to analyze the word classes of suffixes. The findings revealed four types of suffixes: nominal, verbal, adjectival, and adverbial. The functions of the suffixes were categorized into two groups: class-maintaining and class-changing suffixes. Meanwhile in this study used online news as its data source, employing a similar documentation method and qualitative analysis to investigate derivational suffixes.

The second study, entitled “An Analysis of Derivational Affixes in The Avengers Movie” examines derivational affixes within the film *The Avengers*. Utilizing a descriptive and qualitative approach, the study identifies the characteristics of derived words and their dictionary entries. The findings, based on Brinton and Brinton (2010) and supported by Fromkin (2011), reveal changes in meaning, word class, orthographic alterations, and phonological changes. Dictionary entries for these words typically include spelling, pronunciation, part of speech, etymology, definition, example phrases, opposites, collocations, usage, and grammatical notes. Unlike this research, which focuses on derivational suffixes in online news. Their study used film as data and provided extensive information from dictionaries.

The third study is titled “Derivational Suffixes in The Return of Sherlock Holmes Novel: A Morphological Analysis” by Ningsih and Utami (2024). This study aims to analyze the reasons behind changes in basic words and to investigate the context of these changes. The research employs a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. Data collection was carried out through reading and note-taking techniques. The findings reveal that there are two words classified as changes involving adjective suffixes, one word classified under adverb suffix changes, two words under verb suffix changes, and two words under noun suffix changes. The majority of these changes are primarily attributed to altering the position of the word class. Meanwhile in this study news was used as data research and adverb suffixes make a significant contribution to the suffixes.

Method

This research employed a descriptive qualitative method to analyze derivational suffixes in CNN News: Entertainment Edition. The study aimed to systematically examine how derivational suffixes are used in news content, providing a detailed account of their types and functions. The study focused on identifying and categorizing derivational suffixes found in news articles. To collect the data, the method used in collecting the data were highlighted and bolded words containing derivational suffixes. The types and functions of these suffixes were then identified by them. Data analysis were presented in tables, and the findings were described an interpreted descriptively. The results were summarized with clear explanations, drawing conclusions based on the descriptive analysis.

Result and Discussion

The research identified four types of derivational suffixes in CNN News: Entertainment Edition. The suffixes found include 79 nominal suffixes, 4 verb suffixes, 88 adverb suffixes, and 62 adjective suffixes.

Table 1. Number of Class Changing Derivational Suffixes

No	Derivational Suffixes	Quality	Percentage (%)
1	Verb	4	1,7%
2	Adverb	88	37,8%
3	Noun	79	33,9%
4	Adjective	62	26,6%
Total	233	233	100%

The table above displays the data categorized by suffix type. The data were collected from 25 articles published in 2024 in CNN News: Entertainment Edition. After repeated observations and readings, the researcher found 4 instances of verb suffixes (1.7%), 88 adverb suffixes (37.8%), 79 noun suffixes (33.9%), and 62 adjective suffixes (26.6%). The analysis indicates that adverbs are the most frequently occurring suffix type in the sample. This prevalence may reflect the nature of entertainment news, where adverbs are often used to describe actions, states, or qualities in detail. Further analysis could explore why adverbs are more common and the potential impact of this on the style and readability of entertainment news content.

1. The suffixes create verb forms.

Derivational suffixes used for verbs include -en, -er, and -ize. Below is an explanation of each suffix along with examples:

Data 1

*“Speaking of scorched earth, there could be a lot more of it, as the closing sequence involves Rhaenyra strategizing with her son about how to neutralize Aemond and his massive dragon Vhagar. While dragon riding is a talent limited to the Targaryens, the two **realize** there are lots of wayward offshoots of the royal bloodline that could in theory be enlisted and turned into riders.”*

[[real] adj + -ize] v

The verb **realize** is formed by adding the suffix **-ize** to the adjective **real**. This process exemplifies how English modifies grammatical categories and meanings through suffixation, converting adjectives into verbs that denote specific actions or processes. The adjective **real** describes something that is authentic or true, in contrast to something imaginary or false. It indicates a state of actuality. When the suffix **-ize** is added to **real**, it transforms the adjective into the verb **realize**. This conversion changes the word from describing a quality to denoting an action or process. The suffix **-ize** is a common derivational morpheme in English used to form verbs from adjectives or nouns. It typically indicates the action of making something into the state described by the base word or bringing about a particular condition.

Data 2

*“Mayor Jane Doe emphasized the importance of this initiative, stating, “Our goal is to **strengthen** the health infrastructure of Cityville to ensure that every resident has the opportunity to live a healthier life. By increasing funding and resources, we’re addressing critical gaps and building a more resilient community.”*

[[strength] n + -en] v

The verb **strengthen** is created by attaching the suffix **-en** to the noun **strength**. This morphological process exemplifies how English employs suffixes to convert nouns (and sometimes adjectives) into verbs, thereby modifying the grammatical category and meaning of the base word. The base noun **strength** refers to the quality or state of being physically strong, or metaphorically, the capacity to endure or resist. It denotes power, force, or robustness, and can apply to physical, emotional, or structural contexts. The suffix **-en** is a derivational morpheme in English used to form verbs from nouns or adjectives. It often signifies the action of causing something to become more of the quality described by the base word or to bring about a certain condition. When added to **strength**, the suffix **-en** transforms the noun into the verb "strengthen." This conversion changes the word from a noun that denotes a state or quality into a verb that describes the action of making something stronger or more robust.

Data 3

*"In a significant boost for the city's development plans, renowned local **builder** John Smith has been awarded the contract to construct the new community center in downtown. The project, which aims to provide state-of-the-art facilities for residents, is expected to start next month and be completed by the end of 2025. Smith, known for his work on several high-profile projects, was chosen for his innovative approach and commitment to quality."*

[[build] v + -er] n

The noun **builder** is created by adding the suffix **-er** to the verb **build**. The suffix **-er** is a common derivational morpheme in English that transforms verbs, and occasionally adjectives, into nouns. This transformation typically signifies someone who performs the action described by the verb or holds a particular role or occupation related to the verb's action. The base verb "build" refers to the act of constructing or assembling something, whether it be physical structures like buildings or abstract constructs such as systems and ideas. By adding the suffix **-er**, the verb **build** becomes **builder**, a noun that denotes a person who engages in, is responsible for, or specializes in the activity of building. This transformation from **build** to **builder** exemplifies a common morphological pattern in English, where the suffix **-er** designates an agentive role. It reflects how English utilizes suffixes to create new nouns that describe individuals performing specific actions or holding certain roles. Notably, the noun **builder** extends beyond physical construction to include roles in abstract domains, demonstrating the flexibility of English morphology in broadening the applicability and meaning of base words.

2. The suffixes create adverbial forms.

They are the suffixes found in derivational adverbial suffixes, namely **-ly** and **-ily**.

Data 4

*"I'm not the person who likes to give up very **easily**," she said in June. "I just don't want my sickness to last that long."*

[[easy] adj + -ily] adv

The adverb **easily** is formed by adding the suffix **-ily** to the adjective **easy**. This transformation showcases how English employs suffixes to modify the grammatical category and meaning of words. The adjective **easy** describes something that is not difficult, requires minimal effort, or is simple to achieve. It conveys a quality of being effortless or uncomplicated. When the suffix **-ily** is added to this adjective, it converts **easy** into the adverb **easily**. The suffix **-ily** is used to form adverbs from adjectives, indicating the manner in which an action is performed. Specifically, it describes how an action aligns with the quality denoted by the adjective. The suffix **-ily** plays a crucial

role in changing adjectives into adverbs, thus enriching the language's ability to describe actions with greater precision and detail. This process reflects a broader pattern in English where suffixes modify base words to convey different grammatical functions and nuances.

Data 5

*“I guess I’m in a mindset now of I need to make as much money as **humanly** possible in the next two years, bank it, put it with my investment place, build that so that A., I don’t have to work and I only work when I really want to,” she said this month. “I can also go on a lot more vacations. Then also when I pass away my mom’s got a nice little nest egg, and I don’t have to worry about her.”*

[[human] adj + -ly] adv

The adverb **humanly** is created by attaching the suffix **-ly** to the adjective **human**. This process demonstrates how suffixation in English transforms adjectives into adverbs, thereby altering their grammatical function and expanding their usage. The adjective **human** describes characteristics or qualities related to human beings. It signifies attributes that pertain to humans, such as emotions, behaviors, and traits that are typically considered part of human nature. The suffix **-ly** is a derivational morpheme used to form adverbs from adjectives. When added to an adjective, **-ly** generally indicates the manner or mode in which an action is performed. It describes how something is done or the manner in which a quality is exhibited.

4. The suffixes create noun forms.

They are the suffixes used in derivational noun formation, including -ation, -tion, -sion, -er, -ess, -ness, -al, -ary, and -ment.

Data 6

*“She debuted “Let’s Be Clear” in December 2023, roughly six months after she had announced cancer had spread to her brain. In some instances, the platform was a place to reflect on her career and her memorable roles. Other episodes focused on her treatment and prognosis during informative **conversation** with members of her care team. Doherty discussed her surgeries, medications and difficult decisions along the way.”*

[[converse] v + -ation] n

The noun **conversation** is derived from the verb **converse** through the addition of the suffix **-ation**. This process exemplifies how suffixation modifies both the grammatical category and the meaning of words. The verb **converse** means to engage in a spoken exchange of thoughts, ideas, or feelings, typically involving verbal interaction between two or more individuals. The suffix **-ation** is a common derivational morpheme used to form nouns from verbs. It generally signifies the action,

process, or result associated with the base verb. For example, it can denote the act of performing an action or the state resulting from that action. When **-ation** is added to the verb **converse**, it transforms the verb into the noun **conversation**, shifting the word from describing an action to naming the event or concept of verbal interaction. This morphological change reflects how English employs suffixes to expand its vocabulary, allowing for the creation of nouns that describe both the process and the outcome of actions.

Data 7

*“Roan, who identifies as queer and has said she draws **inspiration** from drag queens, has been compared to Madonna, in part, for her sex-positive lyrics.”*

[[inspire] v + -tion] n

The noun **inspiration**, formed by adding the suffix **-tion** to the verb **inspire**, demonstrates how English employs derivational morphemes to transform verbs into nouns. This morphological process effectively shifts the grammatical category from a verb, which describes an action, to a noun that encapsulates the action's result or its conceptual impact. This transformation not only broadens the meaning of the base word **inspire** but also enriches the language's capacity to express complex ideas and abstract concepts. By converting a verb into a noun, **-tion** allows to discuss not only the action but also the resulting influence or motivation in various contexts **inspiration** can refer to the process of being inspired, as well as the motivational effect that influences creativity or decision-making.

Data 8

*“My songs are so overtly sexual on purpose because it’s an **expression** of me that I wasn’t able to express growing up in a Christian household, in a Christian town that was very conservative,” Roan told Vulture.”*

[[express] v + -sion] n

The suffix **-sion** is added to the verb **express** to form the noun **expression**. This suffix serves to derive nouns from verbs, typically indicating the result, state, or concept associated with the action denoted by the base verb. When the suffix **-sion** is appended to **express**, the verb transforms into the noun **expression**. This derivational process shifts the grammatical category from a verb, which denotes the action of conveying, to a noun, which encompasses the result, form, or manner of that conveyance. Thus, **expression** not only reflects the act of conveying but also represents the various ways in which this act is realized, including both tangible and abstract manifestations. For example, **expression** can refer to a facial expression, an artistic representation, or the manifestation of an idea, thus enriching the language's ability to describe diverse aspects of communication and representation. This transformation highlights the role of derivational morphemes in expanding vocabulary and capturing nuanced concepts.

Data 9

*CNN weather **reporter** Brandon Miller is also among those who got sucked into the meteorology field by “Twister.” He remembers seeing the movie as a child with his father, who was a weather-enthusiast.*

[[report] v + -er] n

The verb **report** involves providing information about events, situations, or topics, and can encompass various forms of communication, including written, spoken, or broadcast methods. The suffix **-er** is a derivational morpheme used to form nouns that generally refer to individuals who perform a specific action or hold a particular role related to the verb. By adding **-er** to **report**, the verb transforms into the noun **reporter**, which denotes a person engaged in the act of reporting. This grammatical shift changes the word from describing an action to identifying an entity who performs that action. The suffix **-er** exemplifies how English utilizes derivational morphemes to create nuanced vocabulary, reflecting the roles and functions associated with various actions and processes.

5. The suffixes create adjective forms.

They are the suffixes used in derivational adjective formation, including -able, -ible, -ful, -ical, -ive, -less, -en, -ly, -ward, -ous, -ary, and -ant.

Data 10

*“Dunaway’s screen beauty, with a face made for close-ups, and abundant talent merely added fuel to her diva reputation, distilled into a **memorable** clip of Bette Davis telling “The Tonight Show” host Johnny Carson that Dunaway was the one actor she wouldn’t work with again.”*

[[memory] n + -able] adj

The noun **memory** refers to the faculty by which the brain stores and recalls information or denotes a specific recollection or event from the past. The suffix **-able** is a derivational morpheme used to form adjectives from nouns or verbs, typically indicating “capable of” or “suitable for.” When added to the base noun **memory**, the suffix **-able** transforms it into the adjective **memorable**. This grammatical change shifts the word from a noun that denotes a concept or object to an adjective that describes a characteristic related to that concept. Specifically, **memorable** denotes something that is worthy of being remembered or has qualities that make it stand out in one's recollection. This transformation reflects a broader pattern in English where suffixes like **-able** are used to create adjectives that convey attributes and capabilities associated with the base word.

Data 11

*“Scott told the Daily Telegraph in 2020 that when production on “Mission: Impossible II” went longer than had been scheduled, star Tom Cruise insisted he stick around to finish the film. “For whatever reason he said I couldn’t (do the role),” Scott told the publication. Calling Cruise “a very **powerful** guy,” Scott added that “other people were doing everything to make it work.”*

[[power] n + -ful] adj

The noun **power** refers to the capacity or ability to act or do something effectively, used in various contexts such as physical strength, influence, or control. The suffix **-ful** is a derivational morpheme that forms adjectives from nouns, meaning “full of” or “characterized by.” Adding **-ful** to the base noun **power** transforms it into the adjective **powerful**, which describes something characterized by or abundant in **power**. This change shifts the grammatical function from a noun denoting a concept to an adjective that describes a quality associated with that concept.

Data 12

*“The actor joined Coldplay on guitar for a performance of their hit “Fix You” at the **massive** UK music festival over the weekend and celebrated with a tribute to the band shared on social media.”*

[[mass] n + -ive] adj

The word **massive** is derived from the base noun **mass** and the derivational suffix **-ive**. The suffix **-ive** transforms the noun into an adjective, conveying the quality of being large in size, weight, or extent. By modifying the base word, **-ive** enables precise and nuanced descriptions of physical and abstract attributes, demonstrating the flexibility and power of suffixes in English.

Conclusion

This research has investigated the role of derivational suffixes in shaping the language used in CNN News: Entertainment Edition. By focusing on the application of derivational suffixes within this context, the study employed a descriptive qualitative method to analyze the types and functions of these suffixes. Through a detailed examination of 233 derivational suffixes, categorized into four types—verb, adverb, nominal, and adjective suffixes—the study revealed significant findings. The analysis identified 4 verb suffixes (1.7%), 88 adverb suffixes (37.8%), 79 nominal suffixes (33.9%), and 62 adjective suffixes (26.6%). The most prevalent type was adverb suffixes, which were notably used to describe actions, states, or qualities in greater detail, reflecting the nature of entertainment news. This prevalence underscores the importance of adverb suffixes in providing nuanced descriptions and enhancing the readability of news content. By applying Plag’s (2002) theory to categorize these suffixes, the study highlights how derivational morphology contributes to the creation

of new words with varied meanings and grammatical categories. This process enriches the language and allows for a more dynamic and expressive form of communication in news articles. The research demonstrates that derivational suffixes are integral to understanding and analyzing the construction of words in contemporary media. The findings offer valuable insights into how suffixes function within different types of texts and suggest areas for further research into the impact of these suffixes on language and comprehension in various contexts.

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