A Morphological Analysis on English Compound Words in Five Articles of BBC News

(Analisis Morfologi Kata Campuran Bahasa Inggris di Lima Artikel Pilihan Berita BBC)

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Abstract

This study aimed to analyse English compound words based on the morphological aspects. The morphological aspects are the types, the orthographic features, and the meanings of compounds. The data of this research are taken from five selected articles of BBC news on its website. This study uses qualitative research with descriptive method to analysed the data because the data are in the form of words. This research uses Bauer's theory of the types of compounds, Plag et al.,'s theory of the orthographic features of compounds, and McCarthy's theory of the meanings of compounds as the main theories. The result of the study shows that there are five types of compounds in the selected articles, they are: compound nouns, compound verbs, compound adjectives, neo-classical compounds, and other form classes. Compound nouns become the most dominant types of compounds. When the compounds are complex and longer, they tend to be written separately rather than as a one word or hyphenated. Compounds which are written as a one word, tend to be classified as exocentric compounds. Whereas compounds which are written separately, tend to be classified as endocentric compounds.

Keywords: English compound words, BBC news, types of compounds, orthographic features of compounds, meanings of compounds

Abstrak

Studi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis kata campuran Bahasa Inggris berdasarkan aspek morfologinya. Aspek morfologinya adalah tipe, ciri penulisan, dan arti dari kata campuran. Data dari penelitian ini diambil dari lima artikel pilihan berita BBC dalam situsnya. Studi ini menggunakan penelitian kualitatif dengan metode penjelasan untuk menganalisis data karena data dalam bentuk kata. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Bauer tentang tipe kata campuran, teori Plag dkk. tentang ciri penulisan kata campuran, dan teori McCarthy tentang arti kata campuran sebagai teori yang utama. Hasil dari studi ini menunjukkan bahwa ada 5 tipe kata campuran di artikel pilihan, mereka adalah: kata campuran kata benda, kata campuran kata kerja, kata campuran kata sifat, kata campuran neo-klasikal, dan bentuk kelas yang lain. Kata campuran kata benda menjadi tipe kata campuran paling dominan. Ketika kata campuran kompleks dan lebih panjang, kata campuran cenderung ditulish dipisah daripada sebagai satu kata atau disambung dengan garis. Kata campuran yang ditulis sebagai satu kata, cenderung diklasifikasikan sebagai kata campuran eksosentrik. Sedangkan kata campuran yang ditulis dipisah, cenderung diklasifikasikan sebagai kata campuran endosentrik.

Kata Kunci: kata campuran Bahasa Inggris, berita BBC, tipe kata campuran, ciri penulisan kata campuran, arti kata campuran

Introduction

Morphology as one of the most important studies in linguistics is very important for students as English learners. It studies about how the words are built up from the smallest pieces. Understanding the formation of those words is very useful for the learners since English is considered as the foreign language in Indonesia. The learners learn the words and try to know how to use and organize them. This process is a part of morphological process in English. The morphological process of English teaches English learners

the rules for forming new word such as verb, noun, adjective, adverb becoming other word classes. Through this morphological process, the formation of new word from another word classes is done by putting affixation to the existing word, for example the noun form of *friend* becomes the adjective form *friendly* by adding suffix *-ly*.

Moreover, the joining of two words or more can express new meanings when they are written separately, as a one word, or hyphenated. A word may also have different meanings when it is added by some affixes. This process happens in word-formation processes. Yule (2010) classifies word-formation processes into ten: coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, back-formation, conversion,

acronyms, derivation, and multiple-processes. This research discusses compounding as a part of word-formation processes. This topic is chosen because compound words has specific characteristics in their morphological aspects, such as the types, the orthographic features, and the meanings of compounds. The selected articles are chosen because a lot of formations of compound words are not written in simple way but more complex.

Based on the background of the study above, the problem can be elaborated into the two following questions:

- What types of English compound words can be found in the selected articles of BBC news?
- How can the orthographic features and the meanings of English compound words be described in the selected articles of BBC news?

In line with those questions, the study is designed to achieve two goals, namely:

- To find out the types of English compound words in the selected articles of BBC news,
- To analyse the orthographic features and the meanings of English compound words in the selected articles of BBC news.

Research Methodology

This research is conducted by using qualitative research since the data of this research are in the form of words. Denscombe (2007:248) states that "qualitative research that tends to be associated with small-scale studies, description and holistic perspective by using words or images as the unit of data analysis." In addition, the result of this study can be described with full of description in order to get deeper understanding of the issue.

The basic data of this research are compound words. English compound words are taken from five articles of BBC news from *www.bbcnews.com* website. To collect the data, the first step to do is underlined English compound words from five selected articles. After that, English compound words are rewritten and sorted to get the clear data. The data are sorted based on the definition of compounding by Plag et al. (2009).

First of all, the sorted data are classified into the types of compounds based on Bauer's theory (1983). Then, the data are described based on the orthographic features and meanings of compounds by using Plag et al.'s theory (2009) and McCarthy's theory (2002). To make sure all the investigated data are right, more additional information are taken from the online dictionaries and the internet source. The online dictionaries are Oxford Online Dictionary, Cambridge Online Dictionary, and the free dictionary. The internet sources are www.businiessdictionary.com and www.allbussiness.com.

Results

The results of the study show that there are 201 English compound words from five selected articles. From eight types of compound words, there are five types of compound words. By these classification, it is found that there are 171

compound nouns, 18 other form classes, 6 compound verbs, 3 compound adjectives, and 3 neo-classical compounds..

Then, the types of compounds are classified based on their orthographic features and meanings of English compound words. First of all, from 201 compound words, there are 146 compounds are written separately, 44 compounds are written as a one word, and 11 compounds are hyphenated. Based on the meanings of compounds, there are 155 endocentric compounds and 46 exocentric compounds.

Discussion

The discussion of this study is provided by classifying English compound words into two steps, they are; (1) the types and (2) the orthographic features and the meanings of compounds. Then, it is followed by the explanation of the findings. Following are the discussion of the findings;

1. The Types of English Compound Words

The types of English compound words become one of the most important points in this research. It takes an important role in collecting the right English compound words before the compounds are explaining further based on their orthographic features and meanings. Following are the findings of the types of English compound words;

1.1 English Compound Nouns

English compound nouns become the most dominant types of compounds from five selected articles. English compound nouns are classified into nine patterns (Bauer;1983). The following table presents the patterns and the examples of compound nouns;

Table 1.1 The patterns of English compound nouns

No	Patterns	The examples of compounds
Ph.	Noun + Noun	money laundering, World Cups
2	Verb + Noun	cost-overruns
3	Noun + Verb	-//
4	Verb + Verb	<i>/ //</i>
5	Adjective + Noun	wrongdoing, stronghold
6	Particle + Noun	in-house, offshoot
7	Adverb + Noun	
- 8	Verb + Particle	bailout, standoff
9	Phrase Compounds	_

From Table 1.1 above, there are five patterns from nine patterns of English compound nouns. The most dominant pattern of compound nouns is Noun + Noun combination. On the contrary, the patterns of Verb + Verb combination is the rarest compound nouns occurred in the five selected articles.

Following are the samples of the data of the contribution to the grammatical features of a whole compound that each constituent make. All are explained from the three forms of compounds;

Compound Words	Inflected Forms	Uncommon Forms
bank deposit	bank deposits	banks deposits
sport marketing	sports marketing	sport marketings
claim woman	claims woman	claims women

The three forms show that if the compounds are in the inflected forms, the inflectional suffix -s is commonly added to the second constituent of the compounds (as in bank deposits, suicide attacks), not to the first constituents of the compounds. In the forms of sports marketing and claims women, those compounds are different from the two previous compounds because the inflectional suffix -s adds in the first constituent and both constituents. To determine the grammatical features of a whole compound, the meaning of those compounds should be considered.

Moreover, there are 37 English Noun + Noun compounds + inflectional suffix -s which are added in the first and second constituents or both constituents. There are 4 compounds which are added with inflectional suffix -s in the first constituent of the compounds. Whereas, the additional of inflectional suffix -s in both constituents of the compounds occurred in 3 compounds. The inflectional suffix -s is added in the second constituents of 30 English Noun + Noun compounds. So, it can be concluded that the inflectional suffix -s is mostly added in the second constituent rather than in the first constituent of compounds.

The second constituents of the compounds are usually called the head of the compound. English compound words usually have a head in the right-hand element or the second constituent. To know the role of the left-hand element or the first constituent of the compounds, one compound *prime minister* is described here. Clearly, *prime minister* describes what kind of minister in a government of a country, if it compared with other types of ministers, such as *finance minister*, *immigration minister*, or some other kind of minister, it has the similar meaning. So, the first constituents of the compounds specify the head of the compounds. The first constituents or the left-hand elements are well-known as modifiers. The modifiers provide more additional information about the head of the compounds.

As mentioned before, the construction of English Noun + Noun compounds are very productive. After analysing the patterns of English compound nouns with various lexical categorises, the internal structures of the constituents of compound nouns are explained in this case. There are ten distributions of the internal structures of the constituents of the compounds. The distributions are Stem + Stem, Stem + (Stem + Suffix), (Stem + Suffix) + Stem, (Stem + Suffix) + (Stem + Suffix), ((Prefix + Stem) + Stem) or ((Prefix + Stem) + (Stem + Suffix)), (Stem + (Prefix + Stem)) or ((Stem + Suffix) + (Prefix + Stem)), (Prefix + Stem) + (Prefix + Stem), (Stem + Stem) + (Noun, Noun + (Stem + Stem), and (((Noun + Noun) + Noun)).

After counting all English Noun + Noun compounds from the internal structures of the constituents, it notices that the numbers of compounds are decreased because of the complexity of its constituents. There are 43 compounds whose components are both simplex nouns. The number of compounds which one component has suffixation is higher (44 compounds), and the number of compounds which both of components have suffixation is lower (18 compounds). Then, prefixation in one component appears in 6 compounds, and there is no compounds appeared prefixation in both of components. There are 22 compounds in which

one component is also a compound, but there is only 4 compounds in which both of components are compounds.

1.2 English Compound Verbs

English compound verbs become the third dominant types of compounds. There are six compound verbs in the selected articles, they are: *under-reported*, *uprooted*, *overwhelmed*, *withdrawn*, with the pattern of Particle + Verb, *to self-harm* with the pattern of Noun+ Noun.

To show the role of compound verb in the sentence, it is explained from the following sentence;

(1) Sexual and physical assault were being *under-reported* for cultural reason.

In the sentences (1), the compound of *under-reported* acts as a verb in the form of past participle and create passive meanings. This statement strengthens from the existing to be *were being* before the compound.

English compound verbs or verbal compounds have a verb as the rightmost element (as in *under-reported*, *uprooted*, *overwhelmed*). The verb becomes the head of the compounds. The activities of the compounds are denoted by that right-hand element or the second constituents of the compounds.

1.3 English Compound Adjectives

English compound adjectives consist of twelve patterns. There are three compound adjectives in this research, they are: *deep-rooted* with Adjective + Adjective combination, *widespread* with Adjective + Noun combination, and *computer-generated* with Noun + Verb combination. Following is the example of compound in the sentence:

(2) Fifa is facing claims of *widespread* corruption after Swiss police raided a hotel in Zurich -where Fifa is based - and arrested seven of its top executives last month.

In the sentence (2), the compound of widespread precedes the nouns form of corruption. The compound of widespread does not have an adjective as the head of the compounds, but the role in the sentences represents the word class of the whole compound as explained before. In this compound, the construction of the meaning of adjectival compounds also becomes another consideration to decide the word class of the whole compound. In the form of widespread, wide becomes the modifier of the noun spread.

1.4 Neo-classical Compounds

Neo-classical compounds are one of the fewest compounds. It is only three neo classical compounds. They are *polytheist, thermoplastics,* and *super-jumbo*. From the three free morphemes *theist, plastics,* and *jumbo*, those compounds contain three bound morphemes *poly-, thermo-,* and *super-*. As what McCarthy (2002:21) states that a word made up combining forms, the morphemes acquire the status of free morphemes.

The compound of *polytheist* is added with a combining form *poly-*. *Poly-* means many. This combining form is found in the Indo-European roots.

1.5 Other Form Classes

Other form classes become the second most dominant types of compounds. Other form classes consist of compound prepositions, compound pronouns, and compound conjunctions. Following are the examples of other form classes;

Table 1.2 The types of other form classes

ruble 1.2 The types of other form classes					
No	Types of Other Form Classes	The Examples			
1	Compound prepositions	Without, into			
2	Compound pronouns	Anybody, itself			
3	Compound conjunctions	However, meanwhile			

Compound words are constructed by combining two words or more to create a new meaning. This statement happens in the following compound of other form class:

(3) *However*, until now, much less has been revealed about the Swiss investigation than the inquiry being led by the FBI.

In the sentence (3), however is classified as compound conjunctions. Conjunctions are usually used to make connection and indicate relationships between events. The compound of however is used to connect sentences that explain about the investigation of Fifa corruption by Swiss prosecutors and the inquiry by FBI.

2. The Orthographic Features and Meanings of English Compound Words

Other morphological aspects of compounds are their orthographic features and meanings. The orthographic features of compound words are commonly written as a one word, separately, or with a hyphen, but there are no specific rules about the spelling of English compound words. In this research, the meanings of compound words are described after elaborating the spelling of compounds. Following are the discussion of the research findings;

2.1 English Compound Nouns

In the previous explanation, the findings show that the orthographic features of compound words depend on the complexity of the constituents. There are 139 compound words with Noun + Noun combination, only 14 compounds are written as a one word, one compound is written with a hyphen, others are written separately. So, Noun + Noun combination of compound nouns tend to be written separately than written as a one word or with a hyphen.

The impact of suffixation and prefixation in the spelling of compound nouns is showed by comparing the distributions of the internal structures of the constituents of the compounds in the following tables.

Table 2.1 Noun + Noun Compounds with Three Different Structures

Compound Nouns	Writing					
	separately	as a one word	with a hyphen			
Stem + (Stem + Suffix)	34	3	-			
(Stem + Suffix) + Stem	6	1	-			
(Stem + Suffix) + (Stem	18	-	-			
+ Suffix)						

+ Stem) TOTAL	63		
(Prefix + Stem) + (Prefix + Stem)	-	-	-
(Prefix + Stem) + Stem	1	-	1
Stem + (Prefix + Stem)	4	-	-

From Table 2.1 above, it shows the great differences between three different structures of suffixation and prefixation of the compounds. The structures of constituents influence the way how the compounds are written. There is only one compound written with a hyphen, four compounds written as a one word, others are written separately. This result strengthens the statement that the complexity of constituents affects the spelling of the compounds.

After analysing the structures of compounds with suffixation and prefixation, the kinds of suffixation and prefixation are counted from five selected articles. The addition of inflectional suffix -s is the most dominant suffixation from both constituents of Noun + Noun compounds. The explanation of the additional suffix -s has been elaborated in the previous subchapter.

Then, it explains about the orthographic features of compounds and their meanings from the additional suffix -s to the compound nouns. Most of compounds are written separately. There are only three compounds which are written as a one word and no hyphenated compounds.

The compounds of *spokesman* and rights groups have inflectional suffix —s in the first constituents and both of constituents. They are different in the case of spelling. Both of them classified as endocentric compounds. The head of compounds are *man* and *groups*. *Spokesman* means someone who is chosen by a group or organization to speak officially to the public for them. *Rights groups* means a nongovernmental organization which advocates for human rights through identification of their violation, collecting incident data, its analysis and publication, promotion of public awareness while conducting institutional advocacy, and lobbying to halt these violations.

The next explanation is about the prefixation in English Noun + Noun compounds. In this research, there are only six compounds that have prefixation in the first or second constituent of the compounds. They are *Nauru review*, *Greek default, stock exchange, loan repayment, reform proposals*, and *anti-money-laundering*. Most word with prefixes (co-, de-, pre-, pro-, and re-) are written as a one word. A hyphen is sometimes used to avoid doubling a vowel (for example as in *micro-organism*) or tripling a consonant (for example as in *hull-less*), to join a prefix or combining form to a capitalized word (for example as in *un-American*) or to distinguish a compound word from a homonym (for example as in *recreation* and *re-creation*). The use of hyphen as in *anti-money-laundering* in this research is to make the meaning clear.

Moreover, it is also found 22 compounds that have a compound in one of the components and four compounds have compounds in both of components. The compound of *aircraft components* has a compound in one of the component. The compounds *aircraft* creates a new meaning when they are added with other noun form of *components*. The noun form of *components* comes from the word of *component* + -s. The addition of inflectional suffix -s to

make the plural form of *component*. The compound can be broken down as follow;

aircraft components → [[aircraft] components]

This compound classifies as endocentric compound. According to the director general of civil aviation technical centre, *aircraft components* means any part, the soundness and correct functioning of which, when fitted on an aircraft, is essential to the continued airworthiness or safety of the aircraft, or its occupants.

When compounds are complex and longer, they tend to be written separately. This statement is proved by counting the numbers of syllables of Noun + Noun compounds. The result is presented in the following table;

Table 2.2 The numbers of syllable of Noun + Noun compounds

Writing	2syll	3syll	4syll	5syll	6syll	7syll	8syll	9syll
As a one word	10	4	-	-	-	-		100
Separately	9	23	35	30	11	8	6	4
Hyphenated	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	_

In two syllables, there are ten compounds written as a one word (as in airframe), nine compounds are written separately (as in *port city*), and no hyphenated compounds. In three syllables, there are four compounds written as a one word (as in broadcasting), 23 compounds are written separately (as in *debt auction*), and no hyphenated compounds. In four syllables, there are 35 compounds written separately (as in Friday prayers), and no compounds are written as a one word and hyphenated. In five syllables, there are 30 compounds written separately (as in finance minister), and no compounds are written as a one word and hyphenated. In six syllables, there are 11 compounds written separately (as in *propaganda efforts*), and no compounds are written as a one word and hyphenated. In seven syllables, there are eight compounds written separately (as in broadcasting executives), one compound is written with a hyphen (as in *anti-money-laundering*), and no compound is written as a one word. In eight syllables, there are six compounds written separately (as in integrity commissioner, regulatory approval), no compounds are written as a one word and hyphenated. In the nine syllables, there are four compounds written separately (as in investigation mechanisms), and no compounds are written as a one word and hyphenated.

Further analysis examines the compounds which are written as a one word. There are 15 Noun + Noun compounds which are written as a one word. The entire list of these compounds is given in the following section;

(4) framework, football, mainstream, Airbus, aircraft, airframe, Eurozone, Eurogroup, broadcast, footage, broadcasting, sidelines, warplanes, spokesman.

From the list (4) above, compounds are written as a one word to express clearly about the meanings. It also can be seen that the constituents of the compounds cannot be replaced with another words to produce the similar meanings. So, this explanation has correlation with the production of meaning of compound words. To prove this

statement, the word of *Airbus* and *prime minister* are taken to explain about their spellings.

Prime minister is found as Noun + Noun compound which is written separately. Minister means a head of a government department in some countries. Prime minister means the head of an elected government; the principal minister of a sovereign or state. This compound is written separately because in this research it also finds compound words with the word of minister as the second constituent of the compounds but the first constituents are different. Those compounds are finance minister and immigration minister. This means that the word of minister becomes the head of the compounds and the headless compounds or modifiers can be added with prime, finance, or immigration.

On the contrary, the word of *Airbus* is written as a one word because *Airbus* as the headless compound cannot be replaced with other words to produce the similar meaning. The first and second constituents of the compounds do not specify the meaning of the whole compounds. Therefore, *airbus* belongs to exocentric compound. It means trademark a commercial aircraft manufactured and marketed by an international consortium of aerospace companies, not a bus that can fly in the air.

In this research, there are compound words contained numerical compounds (as in *three-year inquiry*). The numerical compounds are functioned as a unit modifier. A unit modifier containing a numeral or number is usually hyphenated. The numerical compound of *three-year* is hyphenated because the numerical compounds appear before the noun form of *inquiry*. This compound classifies as endocentric compound. *Three-year inquiry* means an official investigation by in the possibility of money laundering in Fifa corruption for three years.

There are also compound nouns end with *craft* that is usually written as a one word. The compound is written as a one word because if the words are not written as a one word, the meanings of the compounds are not clearly expressed. *Aircraft* has endocentric meaning. It means any machine supported for flight in the air by buoyancy or by the dynamic action of air on its surfaces, especially powered airplanes, gliders, and helicopters.

In Verb + Noun combination of compound nouns, there is only one compound. It is *cost-overruns*. This compound is formed by conversion of a compound noun *overrun*. In the noun form, the compound of *over-run* is hyphenated to avoid doubling a consonant /r/. This compound is hyphenated to convey a clear meaning of the compound. The noun form of *over-run* combines with another verb *cost*. Then, those words are hyphenated to form a compound noun and to give a clear meaning. *Cost-overrun* classifies into exocentric compound. *Cost-overrun* means amount by which the actual cost exceeds the budgeted, estimated, original, or target cost.

In Adjective + Noun combination, there are eight compound nouns (as in *stronghold*). The compound of *stronghold* is written as a one word and belongs to exocentric compound. *Stronghold* is a place that has been fortified by Houti rebels so as to protect it against attack.

In Particle + Noun combination, there are only two compound nouns (as in *in-house*). *In-house* is hyphenated to

make the meaning clear. *In-house* classifies as exocentric compound. It means without assistance from outside an organization; internally.

In Verb + Particle combination, there are two compound nouns(as in *bailout*). The compound of *bailout* is classified into exocentric compound. *Bailout* means an act of giving financial assistance to a failing Greek's economy to save it from collapse. When verbs are combined with an adverb or preposition, the verbs usually are written separately (as in Paris Air Show: the printed plane nears *take off*). On the contrary, when the same two words are used as nouns or adjectives, however, they should be hyphenated or joined.

2.2 English Compound Verbs

In this research, there are six compound verbs, The pattern of Particle + Verb combination is really common in constructing compound verbs with *under-*, *over-*. Most of them are written as a one word or hyphenated.

In this research, the compound of *overwhelmed* is written as a one word to express the meaning clearly. The particle *over*- in the first constituent of the compounds usually means too. *Overwhelmed* has exocentric meaning and means give too much of casualties in Hospital in Sanaa.

2.3 English Compound Adjectives

There are three compound adjectives. In this research, compound adjectives act as modifiers of the words of *corruption* and *3D models*. The compounds are showed as follows;

Compound Adjectives deep-rooted corruption widespread corruption

Deep-rooted means firmly embedded in thought, behaviour, or culture, and so having a persistent influence. Widespread means occurring or accepted widely. Both of them have exocentric meaning.

2.4 Neo-classical Compounds

In this research, *polytheist, thermoplastic*, and *super-jumbo* classified as neo-classical compounds. The compound of *polytheist* is formed from *poly- + theist*. *Polytheist* is written as a one word to avoid ambiguity. *Poly-* means many. When *theist* means one who believes in the existence of a god or gods, *polytheist* means one who believes in a plurality of gods. So, polytheist has endocentric meaning.

2.5 Other Form Classes

There are eighteen other form classes from five selected articles. Other form classes are compound preposition, compound pronouns, and compound conjunctions. In compound preposition, *instead of* means in place of someone or something else. This compound classifies as exocentric compound.

In compound pronouns *any, every, no,* and *some* when combined with *body, thing,* and *where* are written as a one word. When, *one* is the second element, it should be written separately if the meaning a single or particular person or thing. *Anybody* means a person of any importance. In

compound personal pronouns, they should be written as a one word, as in *itself*.

Conclusion

According to the result, there are five types of compound words. By these classification, it is found that there are 171 compound nouns, 18 other form classes, six compound verbs, three compound adjectives, and three neoclassical compounds. In total, there are 201 compounds from five selected articles. Furthermore, it is found that most of compounds in the selected articles have grammatical heads in the right hand elements and modifiers in the left hand elements. The right hand elements mostly determines the word classes of the whole compounds.

Then, the types of compound words are classified based on their orthographic features and meanings. From 201 compound words, there are 146 compounds are written separately, 44 compounds are written as a one word, and 11 compounds are hyphenated. When the compounds are complex and longer, the compounds tend to be written separately rather than as a one word or hyphenated. Based on the meanings, there are 155 endocentric compounds and 46 exocentric compounds. Compounds which are written as a one word, tend to be classified as exocentric compounds. Whereas compounds which are written separately, tend to be classified as endocentric compounds.

In conclusion, to comprehend compound words, the learners should consider the elements which construct the compounds itself from the patterns of the types, the orthographic features, and the production of meanings of compounds to comprehend English compound words.

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