

## **WORD FORMATION PROCESS IN THE JAKARTA POST ‘CULTURE’ ARTICLE**

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### **Abstract**

This research aims to analyze the word formation process in The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ article. This object is interesting to be researched because it can be used to enhance vocabulary, improve reading comprehension, and also it is a famous Indonesian news that using English as language based. This research used a qualitative research design by selecting and collecting data in The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ article on its website, then analyzed the article by reading the article in culture section, searching up the words that formed with word formation, and then analyzing them by using word formation process theory related to semantics study. The result shows that there are 8 examples of affixation, 6 examples of acronym, 2 examples of blending, 4 examples of borrowing, 2 examples of backformations, 1 example of coinages, 4 examples of abbreviations, 7 examples of compounding, and 1 conversion. The researcher concludes that the word formation process in The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ article is dominated by affixation and compounding.

**Keywords:** *Semantics, The Jakarta Post, word formation*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Language is an essential need for social beings in order to communicate. Derbyshire (n.d.) states that language is a way of communication between people, which is composed of vocal sounds, symbolic, systematic, articulatory, and arbitrary. On the other hand, language is closely related to linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of language as a human communication system, it is clearly defined that linguistics focuses on analyzing human’s language (Richard and Schmidt, 2002). Linguistics has a number of branches, including morphology. Morphology is defined as the study of the internal structure of words, which deals with the form of lexemes (inflection) and the way how lexemes are formed, namely word formation (Rahayu, 2021).

Word formation is a branch of language science that studies the patterns in forming new lexical units, words. It can process compound words which are formally and semantically analyzed (Marchand, 1969). There are nine ways of how English words are formed: affixation, acronyms, blending, borrowing, backformation, coinage, abbreviation, compounding, and conversion.

By this time, not only can language be used in spoken communication, it is also used for other interests such as writing, for instance mass media: magazine, newspaper, and so forth. Quoted from article entitled ‘The Role of Language in Advertisement’, discourse in mass media is being one of language phenomena. She also added that “the discourse has bearing with effective and intensive communications system therefore the culture of human can be built and defended the existence” (Widyahening, 2015). Interestingly, those are also part of our life since they have

many functions for human beings such as giving updates, information, reading sources, entertainment, and so on.

One of those famous mass media is The Jakarta Post. The Jakarta Post is an Indonesian English-daily newspaper with foreigner and educated Indonesians as a target market with a tagline “Always bold. Always independent”. It is owned by PT. Niskala Media Tenggara, based in Jakarta, and also being one of the members of Asia News Network. As one of the ‘leading of English-language daily’ newspaper, it attracts a huge number of visitors online on its website (Kusumayanti, 2020). The Jakarta Post began as a collaboration of four Indonesian mass media at the request of Ali Murtopo (Minister of Information) and Jusuf Wanandhi (politician). The Jakarta Post has won multiple awards, such as won at the Adam Malik Award twice, in 2009 and 2014, and described as “Indonesia’s leading English-language daily”, because The Jakarta Post is known as a training ground for local and international journalists.

The researcher chose The Jakarta Post as the research object because it is a famous newspaper in Indonesia that written in English, gives information, and knowledge. The newspaper holds big sources. Mittal (2014) informs that the newspaper is holding the most powerful sources in terms of giving information and becomes a knowledge bank. By the information above, it becomes an inspiration for the researcher to study word formation in The Jakarta Post newspaper, especially in the ‘culture’ section. The culture section in it has several topics: lifestyle, entertainment, arts & culture, technology, people, health, parenting, food, and books, in which this is the topic that people are interested in reading. Therefore, the topic can attract people’s interest to read and becomes a way to improve their reading comprehension. Based on the research that had been done by Febri (2018), in a thesis entitled ‘The Effectiveness of Using the Jakarta Post to Improve Students’ Reading Comprehension’, it shows that The Jakarta Post is able to increase vocabularies and also leads to an improvement of reading comprehension. It also uses several terms that are rarely used in daily communication which can help to improve readers’ vocabulary and literacy.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Word formation stands for the ways how new words in language are formed by the process. It is important to learn word formation in order to understand how to form a word based on linguistic rules (Savira, n.d.). There are several ways of how English words are formed, such as affixation, acronyms, blending, borrowing, backformation, coinage, abbreviation, compounding, and conversion.

### **Affixation**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), affixation is the process in which attaching affix before or after bases or morphemes. An affix that comes before the base is called prefix, and prefix often serves to alter the meaning of the word. In addition, generally, suffixes can change the category of words, except inflections. Some prefixes are un-, dis-, in-, pre-, etc. For example, “discontinue”. Here ‘continue’ as a base and ‘dis’ as a prefix. Next, an affix that comes after the base is called suffix. Some suffixes are: -ful, -able, -ly, -ism, -ness, -er, etc. For example, “freedom”. The word ‘free’ as base and ‘dom’ as suffix.

### **Acronym**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), acronym refers to the process of forming a new word from each word initials in a phrase. For example, “UFO”. The word UFO is the acronym of ‘Unidentified Flying Object’. Another example is NATO, which is forming the phrase ‘North Atlantic Treaty Organization’.

### **Blending**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), blending refers to the process of combining two words to form a new word, commonly the beginning part of the first word and the end of another word. For example, “brunch”. The word ‘brunch’ is the combination of the words ‘breakfast’ and ‘lunch’ which means a late morning meal eaten. Note that a sufficient amount of each word is

regularly retained in order the remains easy to analyze as a whole.

### **Borrowing**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), borrowing refers to the process of forming new words by taking over the word from other languages without any changes (Yule, 2002). For example, croissant (French), yogurt (Turkish), etc.

### **Backformation**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), backformation refers to forming new word by removing putative affixes from existing words, and generally it can change the part of speech. For example, ‘peddle’ (verb) to ‘peddler’ (noun), ‘televise’ (verb) to ‘television’ (noun), ‘donate’ (verb) to ‘donation’ (noun), etc.

### **Coinage**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), coinage is referring to the invention of a completely new term (Yule, 2022:64). The most typical sources are invented trade names of products from any companies which become a general term (without initial capital letters) in all versions of that product. For example, ‘Aqua’. Many mineral water brands are invented by many companies, for example Le Mineral, Nestle, Ades, Vit., Crystalline, etc. but people generally refer to any mineral water as ‘Aqua’.

### **Abbreviation**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), abbreviation refers to a shortened version of a word. It becomes a more direct part of the vocabulary. For example: Dept. (Department), Jr. (Junior), Prof. (Professor), Dr. (Doctor), etc.

### **Compounding**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), compounding refers to a process of forming new words by combining two words. For example: “battleground” formed by words ‘battle’ and ‘ground’, “batchmate” formed by words ‘batch’ and ‘mate’.

### **Conversion**

According to Cambridge Dictionary (n.d.), conversion refers to the process of changing the function of words without the occurrences of the reduction process (Yule, 1985:57). For instance, from noun changes to verb. It is likely the same as backformation, but it is not. For example, “chair” in the sentence “we have to chair this meeting”. The word ‘chair’ is a noun which means a place to sit, then it changes to ‘chair’ as a verb which means ‘lead’.

## **METHOD**

In this research, the researchers used a qualitative research design as a method to obtain the data from The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ article as the research object on its website. Creswell (2012) explains that qualitative research is a method of exploring and analyzing the meaning that individuals or groups attach to a social human phenomenon. Therefore, the research instrument to collect the data of this research is document analysis. The researchers began to analyze the news by reading the article in culture section, searching up the words that formed with word formation, and then analyzing them by using word formation process theory related to semantics study.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The findings of this study shows that; from The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ section, the researcher found that there are 35 examples of the word formation process. Specifically, they are divided into 8 examples of affixation, 6 examples of acronym, 2 examples of blending, 4 examples of borrowing, 2 examples of backformations, 1 example of coinages, 4 examples of abbreviations, 7 examples of compounding, and 1 conversion. All of those are explained in detail below.

## Affixation

**Table 1.** Affixation Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Affixation	While juggling university classes and learning a new language in <i>unfamiliar</i> surrounding	Daily warteg serves up taste of home in Berlin
2.		That's because "the <i>overwhelming majority</i> of posts in feed are not eligible to be down-ranked in the first place"	Internal bug promoted problematic content on Facebook
3.		<i>Importantly</i> , Pras said, these laws were enforced <i>diligently</i> . With these safeguards in place, <i>employees</i> found it easier to navigate daily life.	Why many of Indonesia's best tech minds are staying abroad
4.		I <i>eventually</i> went home and started pursuing my master's degree at the university of Bandar Lampung, majoring in <i>management</i> .	Mind your beeswax: how a small skincare business got moms buzzing with excitement

- a. In the first table, there is affixation. The word *unfamiliar* from the article entitled 'Daily Warteg Serves Up Taste of Home in Berlin' has a prefix. *Un-* is a prefix and the base is *familiar*, because the affixes have to be added to the beginning of the word. Furthermore, the meaning of the word differs from that of the original. The term "unfamiliar" refers to something that is not common or well-known.
- b. In the second table with the article entitled '*Internal bug promoted problematic content on Facebook*' there are affixation processes. The words *overwhelming* and *majority* have prefixes and suffixes. *Over-* is prefix, *-ing* as suffix, and *whelm* as base. *Overwhelming* defined as the greatest of an emotion. Next, *-ity* is the suffix and *major* is the base. And *majority* means the greater number.
- c. In the third table there are some affixes in the article entitled '*Why many of Indonesia's best tech minds are staying abroad*'. The words '*importantly, diligently, employees* have suffixes. *-ly* is the suffix of *importantly* and *diligently*, because it is added at the end of the word. and *-es* is the suffix from the word *employees*.
- d. In the last table with the article entitled '*Mind your beeswax: how a small skincare business got moms buzzing with excitement*' there are affixations. The words *eventually* and *management* has suffixes. *-ally* is the suffix of the word *eventually* and *-ment* is suffix to the word *management*. Because those suffixes are added at the end of the word.

## Acronyms

**Table 2.** Acronyms Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Acronym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A couple of celebrities, Asmiranda (right) and Jonas Rivanno, are undergoing a <i>Frozen Embryo Transfer (FET)</i> program.</li> <li>• He previously helped the couple conceive their first child through <i>In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)</i>.</li> <li>• Morula IVF in Indonesia, one of the tests that support the FET procedure is the aneuploidy <i>Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy (PGTA)</i> with <i>Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)</i> technology.</li> </ul>	Frozen embryo transfer as an option to conceive.
2.		<i>Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)</i> test is generally considered to be the most accurate and sensitive to the virus that causes <i>Corona Virus Disease (COVID)</i> , but it usually takes several hours.	Chinese scientist say new PCR test gives results within minutes

- a. In the first table entitled ‘*Frozen Embryo Transfer as an Option to Conceive*’, there are acronyms. The word *FET*, a new word formed from the initial letters of *Frozen Embryo Transfer*. The second words, *IVF* as an acronym for *In Vitro Fertilization*. The third words, *PGTA* as an acronym for *Preimplantation Genetic Testing for Aneuploidy*, and the last words is *NGS* as an acronym for *Next Generation Sequencing*.
- b. The second table in article ‘*Chinese Scientist Say New PCR Test Gives Results Within Minutes*’, there are two acronym processes of word formation. The words *PCR* stands for *Polymerase Chain Reaction* and *COVID* as the acronym of *Corona Virus Disease*.

## Blending

**Table 3.** Blending Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Blending	The world has seen Indonesia’s <i>E-sports</i> players	No underdog: time to acknowledge great force of

		win championships.	Indonesian e-sport.
2.		Costume makers catering to <b>K-pop</b> dance cover artist are steadily gaining attention and growing business.	K-pop costumes more than just replicating design

- a. In the first table, the article entitled '*No underdog: time to acknowledge the immense force of Indonesian e-sport*', contains two independent words to form a single new term. The first word is 'e', which stands for *electronic*, and the second word is 'money', which stands for *money*. The word coined a new term, e-money, which means money in banking computer system available for transactions through electronic system.
- b. In the second table, in the article entitled '*K-pop costumes more than just replicating design*' there is the word blending. The word *K-pop* is a blending of two words 'K' as *Korean* and *Pop* mean music genre. And it created a new term as *K-pop*.

## Borrowing

**Table 4.** Borrowing Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Borrowing	A video showing an unidentified man in Palembang being questioned by police after reporting having been sold fake <b>marijuana</b> went viral on Tuesday.	Palembang man goes to police, reports having been sold fake marijuana.
2.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Here are 20 must-try sweet treats to enjoy at your nearest restaurant or <b>warung</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Martabak manis</b> (<i>sweet martabak</i>) is sometimes described as similar to a Western pancake.</li> <li>• It has a chewy, soft texture and is usually served during <b>Ramadan</b> as <b>takjil</b>, a light snack eaten to break the day's fast.</li> </ul>	Uniquely Indonesian dessert worth savoring.

- a. In the first table, an article entitled "*Palembang man goes to police, reports having been sold fake marijuana*" there is borrowing. The word "*marijuana*" comes from the Latin word, which means psychoactive drug.
- b. In the second table, an article entitled "*Uniquely Indonesian dessert worth savoring*". The word "*warung*" is borrowed from Indonesian language which means small-scale local food business. Next, "*Martabak Manis (sweet martabak)*" is borrowed from Indonesian language simply means Indonesian sweet pancakes. Then, "*Ramadan*" and "*takjil*" are borrowed from the Arabic language.

## Backformation

**Table 5.** Backformation Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Backformation	Michael Jones of The Institute of Cancer Research, London said the <i>link</i> reported in the study "does not imply causation" and was "not proof that artificial sweetener" cause cancer.	Consuming artificial sweeteners linked to cancer risk: study
2.		How much the <i>owner</i> felt the loss also played an important role, suggesting that the surviving dogs also responded to human emotional cues.	Dogs show signs of mourning after loss of canine companions

- a. In the first table, the article entitled "*Consuming artificial sweeteners linked to cancer risk: study*", there is backformation. The *link* is a *noun* and the *verb* is *linked*.
- b. In the second table entitled "*Dogs show signs of mourning after loss of canine companions*", there is a backformation. The words *owner* is a backformation because the word *owner* is a *noun* and it becomes *own* if it is changed into a *verb*.

## Coinage

**Table 6.** Coinage Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Coinage	... the account often shares jokes and memes specially about <i>Indomie</i> – arguably the most popular instant noodle brand, the name of which has become interchangeable with the term "instant noodle".	The unique, the experimental, the delicious: Niche instant noodles flavors worth a try.

- a. In the article entitled "*The unique, the experimental, the delicious: Niche instant noodles flavors worth a try*" there is coinage, "*Indomie*" which is one of the biggest instant-noodles brands. There are many Indonesian instant-noodle brands such as Supermi, Sarimi, Mie Sedaap, Intermie, and so forth, but people usually call all the instant-noodles as "*Indomie*".

## Abbreviation

**Table 7.** Abbreviation Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Abbreviation	...the opening of a new crane-lifted restaurant in the Mangkuluhur City development complex on <b>Jl.</b> Gatot Subroto, Semanggi.	Crane-lifted restaurant opens for hungry thrill seekers in Jakarta
2.		...I made it for my own use. It cost me around <b>Rp</b> 180.000 (\$12.51) to buy the ingredients of a natural moisturizer.	Mind your beeswax: how a small skincare business got moms buzzing with excitement.
3.		Dwikorita also stated that ice currently remained on only 2 square kilometers or 1 percent of the 200 sq. <b>Km</b> of Puncak Jayawijaya, a far cry from its previous state.	Puncak Jayawijaya to lose its 'everlasting' snow to climate change by 2025: BMKG
4.		From 11 <b>a.m.</b> to <b>p.m.</b> , Caspar reveals its true identity, serving up authentic Spanish fare from Croquetas de Tinta.	The Orient hotel Jakarta: a rustic weekend escape wrapped in luxury.

- a. In the first table in the article entitled '*Crane-lifted restaurant opens for hungry thrill seekers in Jakarta*', there is an abbreviation in Indonesian language. *Jl.* is the abbreviation in Indonesian language for *jalan*.
- b. In the first table with the article entitled '*Mind your beeswax: how a small skincare business got moms buzzing with excitement*' there is an abbreviation of the word *RP*. The word *RP* is a short form of the word '*rupiah*'.
- c. In the second table, there is an abbreviation process that is word *km* in the article entitled '*Puncak Jayawijaya to lose its 'everlasting' snow to climate change by 2025: BMKG*'. The word *km* is a shorter form of the word '*kilometer*'.
- d. In the third table, the words *a.m.* and *p.m.* Is abbreviation, the form *a.m.* and *p.m.* are short forms of the word '*ante meridiem*' and '*post meridiem*', meaning before noon and after noon.

## Compounding

**Table 8.** Compounding Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Compounding	Because of border closures and <b>lockdowns</b> , this has been a challenge for many Indonesians in the past two years.	Indonesian Diaspora Excited to Get Home for Ramadhan, Idul Fitri



2.		From peeling potatoes to watching both my mother and <b>grandmother</b> and to asking the about recipes.	Daily Warteg Serves Up Taste of Home in Berlin
3.		Instead of a restaurant or cafe, because it was more <b>manageable</b> , she reasoned.	
4.		“My <b>workplace</b> takes time in onboarding,” she said	Why many of Indonesia’s best tech minds are staying abroad.
5.		“Vastly overstated what it had no <b>meaningful</b> , long-term impact on problematic content”	Internal bug promoted problematic content on Facebook
6.		Content rated “false” is <b>downgraded</b> in news feeds so fewer people will see it.	
7.		He said taking after-school lessons would elevate a student’s ability to learn, as there were too many students in typical <b>classrooms</b> .	Does Indonesia’s after-school tutoring culture indicate a failure of standard education?

- a. In the first table, the article entitled ‘*Indonesian Diaspora Excited to Get Home for Ramadhan, Idul Fitri*’, there is compounding. The word *lockdown* is the combination of “*lock*” and “*down*”. It has a different meaning from the original word. *Lock* means a tool for keeping the door, lid, etc., and *down* means from a higher to a lower place or position. Whereas *lockdown* means a *state of isolation for people to stay where they are*.
- b. In the second and third table, which article entitled ‘*Daily Warteg Serves Up Taste of Home in Berlin*’ there are two compounding processes of word formation. The words ‘*grandmother*’ and ‘*manageable*’ are the compounding. *Grandmother* is the combination of the words *grand* and *mother*. *Grandmother* means the mother of one’s mother or father. But *grand* means glorious and *mother* means a woman who gives birth and educates someone.
- c. In the fourth table, the word *workplace* in the article entitled ‘*Why many of Indonesia’s best tech minds are staying abroad*’ is the combination between *work* and *place*. And it has a different meaning from the original word. *Workplace* means the place or environment of which one does work or activities daily such as a company, school etc.
- d. In the fifth table, the word *meaningful* is compounding. *Meaningful* consists of the words *meaning* and *full*. *Meaning* the cognitive knowledge or understanding of the word. And *full* is no more space. And *meaningful* means having a useful meaning or understanding.
- e. The sixth table includes the word compounding is *downgraded*. It is the combination of words *down* and *graded*. It means a reduction of something to a lower rank or position.
- f. The last table, in the title of the article ‘*Does Indonesia’s after-school tutoring culture indicate a failure of standard education*’ there is a compounding word. The word *classrooms* consist of the word *class* and *room*. The word *classroom* is almost similar to the words *class* and *room*. *Classroom* means a place or room in school to study, especially for the student in which class is conducted.

## Conversion

**Table 9.** Conversion Process

No.	Word Formation	Data	Title of Article
1.	Conversion	The “Indonesian icons” series offers an in-depth look at the elements and events that <i>have shaped</i> the country.	Indonesian Icons: The complex legacy of Dorce Gamalama.

- a. a. In the article entitled “*Indonesian Icons: The complex legacy of Dorce Gamalama*” there is conversion. The sentence the *elements and events that have shaped the country* especially in *have shaped* is a conversion. It comes from the noun *shape* which means contours, outline, or something, then turns out become verb *have shaped* which has the same meaning as *has formed*.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the data of analysis nature of the lexicon about word formation in The Jakarta Post ‘culture’ article, the researchers found many word formation processes, there are compounding, borrowing, abbreviation, blending, affixation, coinage, conversion, acronym, borrowing, and back formation. For affixation, there are 8 examples, 6 examples of acronym, 2 examples of blending, 4 examples of borrowing, 2 examples of backformations, 1 example of coinages, 4 examples of abbreviations, 7 examples of compounding, and 1 conversion. Furthermore, affixation is the most common word formation in The Jakarta Post article on culture section. From the explanation, it has been known that The Nature of the Lexicon in The Jakarta Post can be able to improve English skill about word formation, since it made the article written based on linguistics rules.

Since this research is focused on analyze the word formation processes in The Jakarta Post ‘Culture’ section, it is suggested for the next researcher to analyze the word formation process in other sections, and to investigate the bigger picture of the implication of The Jakarta Post article to our life, especially in improving reading comprehension.

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