



Derivational and Inflectional Morphemes in the Children's Novel "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupery

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received: 23 May 2026	This research is intended to discuss affixation process found in a children's novel "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. The focus of the research is about the types of derivational and inflectional morphemes found in the novel. This research uses a qualitative descriptive method. Novel entitled <i>The Little Prince</i> was used as the data source. Data were collected by reading and note taking technique. The theory of Katamba and Stonham (2006) was applied to the data analysis Based on the analysis, it was found that many derivational and inflectional morphemes were used to form several words in the novel. The derivational morphemes can be distinguished into derivational morphemes used to form adjective from noun base (<i>-ous</i> and <i>-ful</i>), to form adjective from verb base (<i>-ible</i> , <i>-able</i> , <i>-ful</i> , and <i>-less</i>), to form adverb from adjective base (<i>-ly</i>), to form noun from verb base (<i>-er</i> , <i>-ion</i> , <i>-ment</i> , and <i>-ing</i>), to form noun from adjective base (<i>-ness</i>), to form verb from adjective base (<i>en-</i> and <i>-able</i>), to form noun from noun base (<i>dis-</i>), to form adjective from adjective base (<i>un-</i> and <i>in-</i>), and to form verb from verb base (<i>re-</i>). The inflectional morphemes found in the novel can be classified into morpheme <i>-es</i> for 3-rd person singular present, <i>-ed</i> for past tense, <i>-ing</i> for progressive, <i>-s</i> for plural marker, <i>-er</i> for comparative degree, and <i>-est</i> for superlative degree. These findings will be useful for those who are interested in studying morphological analysis in English or other languages as a comparison.
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1. Introduction

Mastering vocabulary and sentence structure is essential in learning a language (Tariq et al., 2020), since language consists of form and meaning (Susanto et al., 2025). Words are considered the smallest units in English (Maulidina et al., 2019, whereas the smallest unit of meaning in a language is called a morpheme (Afri & Maulina, 2021). Every morpheme has a purpose and meaning (Jelimun et al., 2024). Derivational and inflectional morphemes are important in learning English because these morphemes are related to meaning and grammar. Derivational morphemes refer to affixes that are added before or after the base word to create a new word (Fitria, 2020; Ulan & Utami, 2025). Inflectional morphemes are affixes used to modify a verb's tense, aspect, mood, person, or number without changing the class or meaning of the base word (Hasanati & Alim, 2023). In learning a foreign language, a very basic and indispensable skill is learning vocabulary (Yawiloeng, 2020). Besides learning vocabulary, learning affixation is also important (Yusuf, 2017). People sometimes only learn vocabulary without learning affixation (Batsuren et al., 2021).

By only learning vocabulary, when they encounter a word that contains an affixation process, they will see it as a foreign word, when what actually happens is that the word could be a familiar word that they know but has undergone an affixation process (Moehkardi, 2016). Errors in the use of affixation when learning a language are very common (Fadlullah, 2023). Several problems were also found in the kinds of affixation processes, such as derivation and inflection. Mostly, beginners learning English have problems with using inflectional morphemes, such as the use of tenses, possession, and plural markers (Zaniar et al., 2024). Problems with derivational usage were also found, namely, the incorrect use of a word that has undergone derivation (Henisah, 2021). The placement of words that undergo the derivation process is often maintained in the same place, that is, the place of the word before the derivation process, even though the word has a different word class (Vargas-Vega & Mora-Pablo, 2023). Analyzing derivational and inflectional morphemes is important because the study of word formation related to the use of both morphemes is not an easy thing to learn (Arbi et al., 2022). We know that derivational and inflectional morphemes are involved in word formation processes in the context of morphology. Moreover, morphology is a field of study that indicates the internal structure of words and the processes involved in forming words (Toruan, 2023).

Several studies have discussed both derivational and inflectional morphemes from many different points of view. A study discussing derivational suffixes in English was conducted using data taken from a magazine (Arjana, 2024). The results of the research showed several kinds of nominal suffixes, adjectival suffixes, verbal suffixes, and adverbial suffixes. A study was also conducted on derivational affixes found in John Green's novel, *The Fault in Our Stars* (Yunita, 2023). The research showed that derivational affixes were the most frequently found affixes in the novel. Another research study that discussed both morphemes was conducted at SMP Negeri 10 Medan (Hutagalung et al., 2023). Several types of both inflectional and derivational morphemes were found in the descriptive texts written by the students. A study dealing with inflectional morphemes in the children's story *The Child's Story* by Charles Dickens was also conducted (Ifadloh et al., 2022). The results showed the types of inflectional morphemes in the short story. A study related to derivational and inflectional morphemes in the song lyrics of Taylor Swift's album *Fearless* was also conducted (Anikah et al., 2022). The results showed various types of both morphemes in the lyrics.

This research is different from previous studies. This research uses a children's novel as the source of research data, while previous studies used general novels as their data sources.

Children's novels have simpler vocabulary and affixation processes than adult novels. Therefore, this novel is suitable for people who want to start learning English. Furthermore, this research aims to analyze the derivational and inflectional morphemes found in the mentioned data source. This research is important for people because it has an impact on society. This research examines the process of derivational and inflectional morphemes found in a children's novel. People sometimes do not focus on word formation, especially affixation, which can change both the category and meaning of a word. Therefore, this research is useful for making people aware of the importance of affixation. It is expected that this research will be useful as a reference for those who want to study the types of morphemes and the affixation process.

Based on the background above, the problems of this research are focused on word formation, especially the affixation process using both inflectional and derivational morphemes. This research also differs from previous studies because it uses a children's novel as a data source. The results of this research can help readers recognize derivational and inflectional morphemes in English.

2. Method

This study employed a qualitative approach to identify and analyze derivational and inflectional morphemes in Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*. Qualitative research is concerned with exploring a problem and interpreting data descriptively to obtain a broader understanding of the phenomenon under investigation (Creswell, 2012). The data source was the children's novel *The Little Prince* (2018). Data were collected through observation supported by note-taking techniques (Fernandes, 2023). The novel was read repeatedly to identify words containing derivational and inflectional morphemes, and the relevant words were recorded for further analysis. The collected data were classified according to the types of morphemes and their morphological functions. Each identified word was examined by determining its base form, affix, word class, and morphological function. The analysis was conducted using the morphological framework proposed by Katamba and Stonham (2006), particularly to distinguish derivational and inflectional morphemes and to identify the levels of affixation. The identified morphemes were further analyzed by considering their contribution to word formation and grammatical meaning within their textual contexts. The classification results were compared across the collected data to ensure consistency in identifying the morphological processes and levels of affixation. The analyzed data were subsequently described interpretively to explain the morphological processes and functions of the identified morphemes in the novel. The observation and analysis procedures were conducted systematically and objectively to ensure that the findings were consistent with the research objectives (Umaroh & Maulida, 2025).

3. Results and Discussion

There are two kinds and functions of morphemes found in the novel as the data source of this research. The morphemes are derivational morphemes (that can change the class and the meaning of the base word), and inflectional (that cannot change the class and the meaning of the base word) (Katamba & Stonham, 2006). Several derivational morphemes found are morphemes that change noun to adjective, verb to adjective, adjective to adverb, verb to noun, and adjective to noun. Meanwhile, derivational morphemes that can only change the meaning of the base words without any changes of the word class are morphemes that change the meaning of noun to noun, adjective to adjective, and verb to verb. Inflectional morphemes

analysed in this research can be classified into morpheme *-s/es* (3rd person singular, present tense), *-ed* (past tense), *-ing* (progressive), *-s* (plural), *-er* (comparative degree), and *-est* (superlative degree). Further information on the types of derivational and inflectional morphemes can be seen in the following analysis.

3.1 Derivational Morphemes

A Derivational morpheme is a bound morpheme that can change the meaning or the word-class of a word (Fromkin et al., 2000). A bound morpheme is a morpheme or an affix that cannot stand alone. Derivational morphemes form new words in two ways: by changing the meaning of the base word, or by changing the word-class to which a base word belongs. Furthermore, derivational morphemes are affixes that function to form new words from existing base words. There are derivational morphemes that change the word class and those that cannot change the word class but change the meaning (Katamba & Stonham, 2006).

Based on the analysis of the collected data, there are several derivational morphemes found in the data source as follows.

3.1.1 Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from noun

Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from noun are found when the base word is a noun. Nouns added with suffixes *-ish*, *-ous*, *-al*, *-esque*, *-ful*, *-ate*, *-ic* become adjective. This is a type of derivational morpheme that has a characteristic of changing the word-class that a base word belongs to. Here are the examples.

- (1) Once when I was six years old I saw a *beautiful* picture in a book about the primeval forest called True Stories (The Little Prince, 2018: 9).

In the example above, there is the word *beautiful*. This word is an example of the derivational process, changing a noun into an adjective. The word '*beautiful*' has the base word *beauty*, which is a noun. This word has a derivational morpheme in the form of the suffix *-ful*, which changes the part of speech from the base word to an adjective. Therefore, when the suffix *-ful* is added to the word *beauty*, the word changes to *beautiful* and the part of speech also changes to adjective.

- (2) A boa constrictor is a very *dangerous* creature and an elephant is very cumbersome (The Little Prince, 2018:16).

In data 2, the word *dangerous* is categorized as a word that has undergone a derivation process from a noun to an adjective. According to the Oxford Dictionary, *dangerous* is an adjective that means "causing injury or harm to a person, or damaging or destroying something." The base word of *dangerous* is *danger*, which belongs to the noun class. The addition of the suffix *-ous* to the word *danger* causes the word to undergo a derivation process with the characteristic of changing the word class. This process is categorized as a derivation process from a noun to an adjective. The result of this derivation process is the word *dangerous*, which belongs to the adjective word class. In a sentence, the word *dangerous* indicates something that can hurt or destroy something.

- (3) The land of tears is so *mysterious* (The Little Prince, 2018:43).

In data (3), the word *mysterious* is also one of the words that has undergone a derivation process from noun to adjective. The word *mysterious* has the base word *mystery* which means 'a thing that is strange and interesting because we do not know much about it'. When the

word *mystery* gets the suffix *-ous*, it undergoes a derivation process that changes the word class of the word. The derivation process undergone by the word *mystery* is noun to adjective because the suffix *-ous* in *mysterious* has changed the word class from noun to adjective. In the sentence, the word *mysterious* modifies a place (the land of tears) that seems strange.

- (4) And since there was neither a mechanic nor a passenger with me, I prepared myself for a difficult but what I hoped would be a *successful* repair (The Little Prince, 2018:13).

In data (4), the word *successful* is classified as a derivation process with the addition of the morpheme *-ful*. The word *successful* has the noun base *success* that means 'a person or thing that has achieved a good result and been successful'. In the data, the word *success* has the suffix *-ful* added to it, causing the word to undergo a derivation process with the characteristic of changing the word class. This derivation process is classified as noun to adjective. The result of this derivation process is the word *successful*. The word *successful* has the word class adjective and in a sentence, the word refers to an improvement that has achieved a good result.

3.1.2 Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from verb

Derivational morpheme used to form adjective from verb is a type of derivational process that changes the word class of the base. This type occurs when the base word is a verb and is derived into an adjective. Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from verb happen when the base word is a verb added with suffixes *-able*, *-ant*, *-ive*, and *-ible*.

Example:

- (1) I am *responsible* for my rose (The Little Prince, 2018: 110).

In example (1), there is a suffix *-ible* in the word "*responsible*". The suffix *-ible* in the word *responsible* belongs to is a derivational morpheme with the characteristic of changing word class. The base word of *responsible* is a verb *respond*. When the word *respond* is added with derivational suffix *-ible*, the derived word changes to an adjective. The result of this derivation process is the word *responsible*, which ultimately has the part of speech *adjective*. Responsible means having control over or care for someone.

- (2) For the king attached *considerable* importance to his authority being respected (The Little Prince, 2018:57).

In data (2), the word *considerable* in the sentence above is an example of a derivational morpheme. The word '*considerable*' has the base word *consider* with the addition of the suffix *-able*. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word *consider* is a verb. When the suffix *-able* is added to this word, it undergoes a process of derivation characterized by a change in word class. The derivation process undergone by this word is from a verb *consider* with the addition of the derivational morpheme *-able*. The result of this derivation process is the word *considerable*, which means 'great in importance'.

- (3) And indeed geography has been extremely *useful* to me (The Little Prince, 2018:11).

The word *useful* in data (3) is an example of the use of the derivational morpheme *-ful*. The word *useful* has the base word *use*. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word *use* is a verb that means 'to do something with a machine, method, or object'. In data (3), the word *use* has the suffix *-ful* added to it. The addition of the suffix *-ful* is a process of derivation that changes the word class from verb to adjective. The result of this derivation process is the word *useful*. In the data, the word *useful* means 'something that can be well used'.

- (4) Thorns are quite *useless* (The Little Prince, 2018:40).

The word *useless* in data (4) is an example of the use of the derivational morpheme *-less*. The word *useless* has the base word *use*. In the Oxford Dictionary, the word *use* is a verb that means 'to do something with a machine, method, or object'. The addition of the suffix *-less* to the word *use* is a process of derivation that changes the word class. The derivational morpheme *-less* is a form of derivation that changes the word class from a verb to an adjective. The result of this derivation process is the word *useless*, and in data (4), the word *useless* has the meaning 'not useful or not doing what is needed or wanted'.

- (5) It is extremely *helpful* if one gets lost in the night (The Little Prince, 2018:12).

Data (5) is an example of the use of the derivational morpheme *-ful*. The word *helpful* has the base word *help*. The word *help* is a verb that means 'to make it easier for something to happen' (Oxford Dictionary). The word *help* in data (5) undergoes a derivation process with the addition of the derivational morpheme *-ful*. The derivation process involves a change in word class which is from verb to adjective. The result of the derivation process is the word *helpful*. The word *helpful* means 'able to make it easier for something to happen'.

3.1.3 Derivational morphemes used to form adverb from adjective

Derivational morphemes used to form adverb from adjective happen when the base word is an adjective and added with the suffix *-ly*, and the adjective will become an adverb.

Example:

- (1) I replied *modestly* (The Little Prince, 2018: 20).

Example (1) shows the suffix *-ly* changes the word class from adjective to adverb. The word *modestly* is a word that undergoes a derivation process with *-ly*. The word *modestly* has the base word *modest*. The word *modest* belongs to adjective. The suffix *-ly* added to the word *modest* and becoming *modestly* is an example of a derivational process changing adjective into adverb.

- (2) I then reflected *deeply* upon the adventures in the jungle and it turn succeeded in making my first drawing with a colour pencil (The Little Prince, 2018:10).

In data (2), there is the word *deeply* which contains the derivational morpheme *-ly*. The word *deeply* is derived from the adjective base *deep* that means 'used to describe the depth of something' (Oxford Dictionary). The addition of the derivational suffix *-ly* has changed the word class from an adjective to an adverb. In data (2), the word *deeply* means 'to a depth that is quite far from the surface of something'.

- (3) I rubbed my eyes, blinked hard and looked *carefully* around me (The Little Prince, 2018:14).

The word *carefully* in data (3) is also an example of the use of the derivational morpheme *-ly*. The adverb *carefully* means 'doing something with careful attention'. The base word of *carefully* is *careful* and when *careful* receives suffix *-ly*, it undergoes a process of derivation and a change happens from an adjective to an adverb. The result of this derivational process is the word *carefully*. The meaning of the word *carefully* in data (3) is 'doing something with full of care'.

- (4) And I discovered an extraordinary little boy watching me *gravely* (The Little Prince, 2018:14).

In data (4), there is the word *gravely* which contains the derivational morpheme *-ly*. The word *gravely* has the base word *grave*, and it is an adjective. The addition of the suffix *-ly* to the word *grave* produces the word *gravely* which changes the word class of the word. The word *gravely* is an adverb that means 'in a very serious and important way'. The derivation process undergone by the word *gravely* is a derivational process from adjective to adverb with the characteristic of changing the word class.

(5) Whereupon he repeated *softly* and *gravely* (The Little Prince, 2018:15).

Data (5) also involves the derivational process from adjective to adverb with the suffix *-ly*. The difference from the previous data is in the base word. The word *softly* has a base word *soft* and the word *soft* is classified as an adjective. Adding the suffix *-ly* to this word produces the word *softly* which is classified as an adverb that means 'in a way that is not loud or violent'. The derivational process undergone by the word *softly* is a derivational process involving the addition of a derivational morpheme *-ly* which changes the word class of the base word.

3.1.4 Derivational morphemes used to form noun from verb

Derivational morphemes used to form noun from verb can be found when the base word is a verb and the verb is added with affixes *-al*, *-ance*, *-ation*, *-er*, *-ist*, *-ment*, and *-ion*.

Example:

(1) Here comes an *explorer*. (The Little Prince, 2018: 81)

In this example, the derivation process changes the part of speech from verb to noun, where the word *explorer* undergoes a change from verb to noun. The word *explorer* has the base word *explore* as a verb. When the verb *explore* is given suffix *-er*, it becomes a noun. The result of the derivation process of the word *explore* with the suffix *-er* is a noun *explorer*. An *explorer* is a person who explores an unfamiliar area.

(2) Thus it was that I gave up a magnificent career as a *painter* at the age of six (The Little Prince, 2018:11).

The derivation process in (2) also changes the word class from verb to noun. The word *painter* has the base word *paint* which according to the Oxford Dictionary belongs to a verb and means 'to make a picture or design'. The word *paint* has undergone a derivation process with the addition of a derivational morpheme *-er*. The addition of this derivational morpheme causes the word *paint* to undergo a derivational process that changes verb to noun. The result of the derivation process is the word *painter* a noun that means a person whose job is painting'.

(3) I had been discouraged by grown-ups in my career as a painter when I was six years old, and I hadn't learnt to draw anything with the *exception* of boas from outside and boas from the inside (The Little Prince, 2018:15).

In data (3), the word *exception* is included in the derivation process with a change of word class from verb to noun. The word *exception* is a word with the base word *except*. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word *except* is a verb which means 'to not include something. There is an addition of a derivational morpheme in the form of the suffix *-ion* in data (3) which causes the noun base word *except* to change into noun *exception*. The noun *exception* means 'a thing that is not included in the statement'.

- (4) I therefore starred in total *astonishment* at this sudden apparition (The Little Prince, 2018:15).

In data (4), there is the word *astonishment* which is included in the derivation process that changes the word class from verb to noun with the addition of the derivational morpheme *-ment*. The word *astonishment* has the base word *astonish*, a verb that means 'to surprise somebody very much'. The word *astonish* in data (4) undergoes a derivation process with the addition of the derivational morpheme *-ment*, which causes the verb *astonish* to change to noun *astonishment*. The word *astonishment* has the meaning 'a feeling of very great surprise'.

- (5) Children should show great *understanding* towards grown-ups (The Little Prince, 2018:28).

The word *understanding* in data (5) is also included in the derivation process of changing word class from verb to noun. Unlike the previous data, in data (5) the derivational morpheme used is the suffix *-ing*. The suffix *-ing* is usually used to provide information regarding grammatical sentences, but in data (5), the suffix *-ing* is used as a derivational morpheme that changes the word class from verb to noun. The base of word *understanding* is a verb *understand* that means 'to know or realize something'. Then the verb *understand* undergoes a derivation process by being added derivational morpheme *-ing*, which changes the ver into a noun. The result of the derivation process is the word *understanding* which has the word class noun and means 'the knowledge that somebody has about a particular subject or situation'.

3.1.5 Derivational morphemes used to form noun from adjective

Derivational morphemes used to form noun from adjective happen when the base word are adjectives and the words are added with suffixes *-ness*, *-ity*, *-ism*, and *-y*. The examples can be seen as follows.

- (1) Do me this *kindness* (The Little Prince, 2018: 64)

Example (1) is an example of a derivation process that changes the word class from adjective to noun. The word *kindness* has the word class noun after undergoing a derivation process that changes the word class. The word *kindness* has the base word *kind*. The word *kind* belongs to adjective. The adjective *kind* undergoes a derivation process with the addition of the suffix *-ness*, which changes the part of speech from adjective to noun. The result of this derivation process is a noun *kindness* that means 'the quality of being generous, helpful, and caring about other people'.

- (2) He did not understand this quiet *sweetness* (The Little Prince, 2018:53).

The word *sweetness* in data (2) is included into the derivation process that changes the word class from adjective to noun by adding a derivational morpheme in the form of the suffix *-ness*. The word *sweetness* has the base word *sweet* which according to the Oxford Dictionary, is an adjective that means 'making feel happy or satisfied'. The addition of the suffix *-ness* to the adjective *sweet* causes the word to change into a noun *sweetness*. The noun *sweetness* has the meaning 'the quality of being pleasant'.

3.1.6 Derivational morphemes used to form verb from adjective

The derivation process also changes the word class from adjective to verb. Adjective to verb occurs when the base adjectives are added with suffixe *en-*.

Example:

- (1) So I made another drawing of the inside of the boa constrictor to *enable* the grown-ups to understand (The Little Prince, 2018:10).

The change in word class from adjective to verb is also included in the derivation process. The word *enable* in data (1) is an example of derivational process that change the word class from adjective to verb. The word *enable* has the base word *able*. According to the Oxford Dictionary, the word *able* is an adjective that means 'having the skill to do something'. The word *able* has undergone a derivation process with the addition of a derivational morpheme in the form of the prefix *en-*. The prefix *en-* added to adjective *able* has changed the adjective into verb *enable*. The word *enable* means 'to act to do something'.

- (2) They want to *enlarge* the meeting room

The word *enlarge* in data (2) also shows a verb resulted in from derivational process with prefix *en-*. The base of the word *enlarge* is the adjective *large* and when the adjective *large* is added with prefix *en-*, it becomes *enlarge*. The word *enlarge* belongs to verb word class. Thus, the process shows the word change from adjective into verb.

3.1.7 Derivational morphemes used to form noun from noun

Derivational morphemes used to form noun from noun happen when the base words are nouns and the nouns are added with prefixes *un-*, *auto-*, *ex-*, *dis-*, *mono-*, and the suffixes *-ship*, *-hood*, *-ling*. The meaning of the derived words will change without any changes of the word-class.

Example:

- (1) Because an explorer who told lies would bring into *disrepute* the geographer's book (The Little Prince, 2018: 83).

Derivational morphemes also have other characteristics, such as changing the meaning of a word without any changes of the word-class. In example (1), the word *disrepute* is a noun and it has the base word *repute* which is also a noun. The word *repute* means 'the state in which a person or an organization is highly respected and esteemed by others'. When the word *repute* gets the prefix *dis-*, the word has a different meaning. The result of the derivation process is the word *disrepute* which means 'the state of being held in low esteem by the public'. The words *repute* and *disrepute* have the same part of speech, namely noun, therefore, the derivational process experienced by the word *disrepute* does not change the part of speech but only changes the meaning of a word.

The word *disrepute* has the base word *repute* with the meaning 'the opinion that people have of somebody'. The addition of a derivational morpheme in the form of the prefix *dis-* changes the meaning of this word and causes it to undergo a first-level affixation process. The result of this derivation process is the word *disrepute* which means 'the fact that somebody loses the respect of other people'.

3.1.8 Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from adjective

Derivational morphemes used to form adjective from adjective happen when the base words are adjectives and the adjectives are added with prefixes *un-*, *in-*, *dis-*, *semi-*, and suffixes *-ish*, *-like* and the meaning of the word will change without any change of the word-class.

Example:

- (1) He had taken words of no importance seriously and became very *unhappy* (The Little Prince, 2018: 49).

In example (1), there is a derivational process in the word *unhappy*. The word *unhappy* undergoes a derivation process without changing the word class, but changing the meaning of the base word. The word *unhappy* has the base word *happy*. The word *happy* means 'a feeling of joy, pleasure, or good fortune'. The prefix *un-* is added to this word. The prefix *un-* is a derivational morpheme that can change the meaning of a word without changing word class of the base. The result of the derivation process is the word *unhappy* which means 'not feeling of joy, pleasure, or good fortune'. The words *happy* and *unhappy* have the same part of speech, namely adjective. The words *happy* and *unhappy* are words that have opposite meanings. Therefore, *unhappy* undergoes a derivational process, in this case is the change of the meaning of the base word.

- (2) You are *unfair*, little prince (The Little Prince, 2018:122).

Data (2) also shows the form of a derivational morpheme that does not change the word class but changes the meaning of a word. The word *unfair* in data (2) is a word that contains a derivational morpheme in the form of the prefix *un-*. The word *unfair* has the base word *fair* which is an adjective with the meaning 'appropriate in a particular situation'. The word *fair* undergoes a derivation process in the form of adding the prefix *un-*. The prefix *un-* in the word *fair* causes the word to change its meaning. The result of this derivational process is the word *unfair* which is also an adjective with a different or contradiction meaning, namely 'not right or fair according to a set of rules or principles'.

- (3) I was *unable* to understand anything! (The Little Prince, 2018:49)

Derivational morpheme in data (3) does not change the word class but changes the meaning by adding the prefix *un-*. The word *unable* in data (3) has undergone a derivation process because there is a prefix *un-* that changes the meaning of the base word *unable*. The word *unable* has the base word *able* which is an adjective with the meaning 'having the skill to do something'. This word has undergone a derivation process with the addition of the prefix *un-*. The result of the derivation process is the word *unable* which is also an adjective with the meaning 'not having the skill to do something'.

- (4) Flowers are so *inconsistent*! (The Little Prince, 2018:49)

In data (4), there is also a derivational morpheme that changes the meaning of a word. The word *inconsistent* has undergone a derivational process in the form of adding prefix *in-*. The word *inconsistent* has the base word *consistent* which is an adjective with the meaning 'always behaving in the same way, or having the same opinions, standards'. The word *consistent* has undergone a derivation process with the addition of the prefix *in-*, which causes the word to change the meaning. The result of the derivation process is the word *inconsistent* which is also an adjective that means 'not behaving in the same way, or having the same opinions, standards'.

- (5) What is essential is *invisible* to the eye (The Little Prince, 2018:110).

Derivational morpheme that changes the meaning of a word is also found in data (5). The word *invisible* in data (5) has undergone a derivation process in the form of adding the prefix *in-*. The word *invisible* has the base word *visible* that belongs to an adjective that means 'that

can be seen'. The word *visible* has undergone a derivation process in the form of adding the prefix *in-* which also causes the word to change the meaning. The word *invisible* is an adjective that means 'that cannot be seen'.

3.1.9 Derivational morphemes used to form verb from verb

Derivational morphemes used to form verb from verb can be found when the base word is a verb and the verb is added with prefixes *dis-*, *re-*, and *un-*. Then, the meaning of the word will change without changing the word-class.

Example:

- (1) I manage them, I count them, and *recount* them (The Little Prince, 2018: 72).

Example (1) shows that derivational morphemes also change the meaning of a word of which word class originates from verb to verb. The word *recount* undergoes a derivational process by changing the meaning of the word but not changing the word class. The word '*recount*' has the base word *count*. The word *count* means 'an act to determine the total number of (a collection of items)'. The word undergoes a derivational process in the form of adding the prefix *re-*. The result of the derivational process is the word *recount*. The word *recount* means 'to repeat an action (count)'. The words *recount* and *count* have the same word class, namely verb. Even though they have the same word class, the two words have different meanings.

- (2) They *reassure* themselves as best they can (The Little Prince, 2018:40).

As can be seen in data (2), the word *reassure* has undergone a derivational process. The word *reassure* has the base word *assure* which is a verb meaning 'to make something certain to happen'. The word *assure* has undergone a derivational process with the addition of the prefix *re-*, which changes the meaning of the word *assure*. The result of this derivational process is the word *reassure* which is a verb that means 'to repeat an action of making something certain to happen'.

3.2 Inflectional Morphemes

Inflectional morphemes are bound morphemes that are added to a word to express grammatical information. Unlike derivational morphemes, inflectional morphemes do not change the meaning or word class of a word (Haspelmath et al., 2010). Inflectional morphemes are affixes that only change the form of a word regarding the grammatical aspect (Katamba & Stonham, 2006). Inflectional morphemes show grammatical details such as tense, number, or comparison (Lieber, 2009). Several affixes related to inflectional morphemes found in this research are discussed below.

3.2.1 Inflectional morpheme: -s/es (used for 3rd person singular, present tense)

Based on the analysis to the collected data, several inflectional affixes are found and they are presented completed with the description of each affix. The followings are the analysis of the inflectional affixes.

Suffix *-s* is used when using simple present tense. The suffix *-s* is usually attached to a verb and indicates that the subject of the sentence is singular third-person.

Example:

- (1) It *flies* (The Little Prince, 2018: 20).

Simple present tense is a tense of which verb is used to describe habits, general truth, scheduled events, unchanging situations. The word *flies* in (1) is an example of a word that undergoes inflectional process. Unlike derivational process, inflectional process does not change the part of speech or meaning of words that the inflectional morphemes add to. Inflectional process is related to the grammar of a word and provides information about grammar and entities. The word *flies* in (1) has the base word *fly*. The word *fly* has the suffix *-s/es* as an example of an inflectional morpheme. The suffix *-s/es* in the word *flies* is classified as an inflectional morpheme because it is related to the grammatical property needed by the text. In the sentence belongs to simple present tense. The suffix *-s/es* is added to the verb *fly* because the subject of the sentence is *it* that needs the verb *flies*.

(2) It *spreads* over the entire planet (The Little Prince, 2018:33).

In data (2), there is also a word containing an inflectional morpheme that indicates third person singular, present tense. The word *spreads* is a word that has undergone an inflectional process with the addition of the suffix *-s/es* as a sign that the subject is a third person singular, present tense. The subject of the sentence in data (2) is *it* which is a third-person singular pronoun. The present tense with the third person singular person requires the verb with suffix *-s/es*. The suffix *-s* in *spreads* functions to show the relation between the subject and the verb.

(3) And if the planet is too small and if there are too many baobabs, the planet *explodes* (The Little Prince, 2018:33).

In data (3), the verb *explodes* contains an inflectional morpheme *-s* that marks the third person singular present tense. The base form of the verb is *explode*. The suffix *-s/es* is added to the verb to form *explodes*. The subject of the main clause is *the planet* which is a singular noun and functions as a third-person singular subject for present tense. The suffix *-s/es* in *explodes* shows a relation between the subject and the verb.

3.2.2 Inflectional morpheme: *-ed* (used for past tense)

Suffix *-ed* indicates the sentence is using the simple past tense and the suffix *-ed* is usually added to a verb. This suffix marks an action that has already occurred.

Example:

(1) It *showed* a boa constrictor swallowing an animal (The Little Prince, 2018: 9).

Simple past tense is used to describe an action or series of actions that occurs in the past. The simple past tense is usually marked by the suffix *-ed* on the verb. The word *showed* in sentence (1) is a verb with the base word *show*. The suffix *-ed* is added to the word *show* and becomes *showed* to indicate that the sentence belongs the simple past tense. The word *showed* is an example of inflectional process because it indicates the relation between subject and verb in the simple past tense.

(2) The book *stated* (The Little Prince, 2018:10).

In data (2), there is the word *stated* which is a verb that has undergone an inflectional process in the form of adding the suffix *-ed*, which indicates the past tense. The base form of the verb is *state*. The suffix *-ed* is added to the verb to form *stated*. The subject *the book* does not change the form of the verb in the past tense. The inflectional morpheme *-ed* added to the base *state* shows that the action or situation happens in the past. This inflectional morpheme does not change the meaning or the grammatical category of the verb. The verb *state* remains a verb

after the suffix is added. The suffix *-ed* only has a grammatical function, which is to indicate past tense.

- (3) I showed my masterpiece to the grown-ups and asked them if my drawing *frightened* them (The Little Prince, 2018:10).

Data (3) with the word *frightened* is an example of an inflectional process that indicates past tense. The word *frightened* has the base word *frighten*. The addition of the inflectional morpheme suffix *-ed* to the word *frighten* indicates the past tense. The result of this inflectional process is the word *frightened* which shows a grammatical form of the past tense in the sentence.

3.2.3 Inflectional morpheme: *-ing* (used for progressive).

Suffix *-ing* added to a verb indicates that the sentence is progressive and usually called present continuous tense. This suffix marks that an action is being done when it is spoken.

Example:

- (1) I am *drinking* (The Little Prince, 2018: 66).

Example (1) shows the present continuous tense that expresses an action happening in the present and may continue into the future. The word *drinking* is an example of a word that undergoes inflectional morpheme. In this example, the inflection process occurs due to the use of the present continuous tense. The word *drinking* has the base word *drink* and receives the suffix *-ing* that indicates the use of present continuous tense. The result of the inflection process is the word *drinking* as an indication of the use of progressive.

- (2) I am *beginning* to understand (The Little Prince, 2018:104)

In data (2), the verb phrase *am beginning* is indicating the progressive form. The main verb is *begin* and it takes the inflectional morpheme *-ing* the it becomes *beginning*. The inflectional morpheme *-ing* shows that the action is developing or happening over time. It suggests that the process of understanding has started but is not yet complete. This inflectional morpheme does not change the verb into another word class. The verb *begin* stays a verb and the suffix *-ing* only provides grammatical information about an ongoing action.

- (3) I am *looking* for men (The Little Prince, 2018:103)

In data (3), the verb phrase *am looking* shows the progressive form. The base form of the main verb is *look*. The inflectional morpheme *-ing* is added to the verb *look*. The suffix *-ing* in *looking* indicates that the action is happening at the time. This shows that the suffix *-ing* is inflectional morpheme indicating progressive form.

3.2.4 Inflectional morpheme: *-s* (used as plural marker)

Inflectional morphemes also indicate the number of entities. The suffix *-s* is used to mark the number of the entities. When the entities are plural or more than one, the object must be with suffix *-s*.

Example:

- (1) They always need *explanations* (The Little Prince, 2018: 10).

The suffix *-s* is not only used to indicate the use of concordance in a grammar, but it is also to indicate plurality. In example (1), the word *explanations* is an example of an inflectional process

that indicates plural noun. The word *explanations* has the base word *explanation*. The word *explanation* is a singular noun and the singular noun undergoes an inflection process with the addition of the suffix *-s*, the singular noun becomes the plural form. The result of the inflection process is the plural noun *explanations* which comes from singular noun *explanation*. Thus, the word *explanations* in example (1) can be considered 'they always need *many explanations*'.

- (2) Since I had never drawn a sheep I drew for him one of the two *pictures* I had drawn before (The Little Prince, 2018:16)

Data (2) shows the noun *pictures* is a result of an inflectional process with the plural suffix *-s*. The base form of the noun is singular noun *picture*. The suffix *-s* is added to the noun, forming plural noun *pictures* that indicates the noun refers to more than one picture. This inflectional morpheme does not change the meaning or the word class of the noun, but it changes the quantity of the noun from singular to plural.

- (3) The little prince, watching the growth of an enormous bud, sensed that this will lead to a miraculous apparition, but the flower continued her *preparations* for her beauty in the shelter of her green chamber (The Little Prince, 2018:45).

In data (3), there is a word '*preparations*' that shows the use of an inflectional morpheme to show plural form. The basic form of the noun is *preparation* (singular), and the suffix *-s* is added to indicate that the amount of the noun is more than one. The result of this process is the word *preparations* (plural). This morpheme does not change the meaning or the grammatical category of the word, but it changes the quantity of the noun from singular to plural. The suffix *-s* only serves a grammatical function as a plural marker.

3.2.5 Inflectional morpheme: *-er* (used for comparative degree)

The suffix *-er* is used to produce agentive nouns. However, the suffix *-er* also indicates a comparison between a noun and another. Comparative degree is used to compare two objects in one sentence in accordance with the adjective used in the sentence. Suffix *-er* is commonly added to adjective to make comparative degree. The adjective is used to modify the noun coming before or/and after the adjective. The explanation of the adjective with suffix *-er* can be seen in the following analysis.

Example:

- (1) The sixth planet was a planet ten times *larger* (The Little Prince, 2018: 81).

The comparative degree is the initial form of comparison used to assess and distinguish between two subjects of equal quality or value in a specific context. In example (1), the word *larger* is an example of a word that undergoes the inflectional process in the form of a comparative degree. The addition of the suffix *-er* to the word *large* indicates that the word *larger* has acquired an inflectional morpheme. The word *larger* in sentence (1) states that the sixth planet is larger than the other planets that are not mentioned in the sentence.

- (2) Boa constrictors swallow their prey whole without chewing it whereupon they can no *longer* move and sleep for six months digesting it (The Little Prince, 2018:10).

In data (2), the word *longer* shows the use of the comparative degree. The base form of the word is *long*. The suffix *-er* is added to form *longer*. The comparative words *longer* is used to show a comparison in degree, indicating a change from a previous condition. In this context, *no longer* means that the ability to move has ended when compared to an earlier time. The

suffix *-er* functions as an inflectional morpheme because it does not change the word class, but it shows the comparative degree. The word *long* remains an adjective after the suffix is added. The morpheme *-er* only serves a grammatical purpose by expressing comparison.

3.2.6 Inflectional morpheme: *-est* (used as superlative degree)

Superlative degree indicates the highest level or degree of something. A superlative degree always compares three or more things to show the highest or lowest quality. Like suffix *-er*, the suffix *-est* is also added to adjectives modifying the nouns being present after them. The suffix *-est* marks of superlative degree. There are only two data of suffix *-est* found in the data source and the analysis is as follow.

Example:

- (1) It is a *prettiest* thing on my planet! (The Little Prince, 2018: 85).

Superlative degrees (or superlatives) compare more than two things to show which has the lowest or highest degree of a quality. The word "*prettiest*" in example (1) is an example of inflectional process in the form of a superlative degree. The word '*prettiest*' has the base word *pretty*. The addition of the inflectional suffix *-est* indicates the presence of a superlative degree in the sentence. Inflectional morphemes are not only related to grammatical matters but also to entities, including superlatives. In the word *prettiest*, the suffix *-est* indicates a superlative for the entity modified by the adjective. When adjusted to the context of the sentence, the word '*prettiest*' in example (1) can be interpreted as 'that thing is the most beautiful thing on my planet'.

- (2) It was the *smallest* one of all (The Little Prince, 2018:75)

The word *smallest* in data (2) is a word that has undergone inflection with the addition of the suffix *-est*. The base form of the word is *small*. The word *smallest* with the addition of the suffix *-est* indicates the superlative degree. The word *smallest* in data (2) can be interpreted, to have meaning that the subject or entity modified by the superlative adjective has the smallest size among other entities. By the example it can be understood that the inflectional suffix *-est* does not change the word class, but it shows the superlative degree.

3.3 Level of Affixation

Affixation is one of the word-formation processes that refers to the process of creating new words by adding an affix to a base. Level of affixation refers to how many times the base receives affixes or how many times the affixation process happens to a base word. When a base word receives several affixes and has a meaning, it is called multiple affixation. This process will be marked with a number of rounds to determine the level of affixation that has been received (Katamba & Stonham, 2006: 54). There are several data found in the data source that show the level of affixation.

3.3.1 First Level of Affixation

The first level of affixation is the level that only uses one morpheme in the base word. The first level of affixation refers to the earliest stage in word formation, where affixes are attached directly to a base word to create a new word. Morphemes added to the base word can be derivational morphemes or inflectional morphemes. The example is as follow.

- (1) Thus, it was that I gave up a magnificent career as a *painter* at the age of six (The Little Prince, 2018:11)

The data above is an example of first-level affixation. This data only uses one morpheme, namely the derivational morpheme/suffix *-er* which has the characteristic of changing the word class of the base word. The word *painter* has the base word *paint*, which is a verb with the meaning 'to make a picture or design'. The word has one morpheme, namely the derivational morpheme with the suffix *-er*, which changes the word class from verb to noun. The addition of one derivational morpheme, namely the suffix *-er*, causes the word to undergo affixation at the first level and undergo a change in word class from verb to noun. The result of the derivational process is the word *painter*, which is an agentive noun with meaning 'a person whose job is painting'

3.3.2 Second Level of Affixation

Second level of affixation occurs when attaching two affixes to the root or base word. Affixes added in this process can be two derivational morphemes or one derivational morpheme with one inflectional morpheme. This process differs from affixation in general, which only adds one derivational morpheme or one inflectional morpheme. This process is often considered as multiple affixation. In this process, there is a level of affixation determined by the number of rounds. The example can be seen in the following description.

- (1) The little prince, watching the growth of an enormous bud, sensed that this could will lead to a miraculous apparition, but the flower continued her *preparations* for her beauty in the shelter of her green chamber (The Little Prince, 2018:45)."

In the data above, there is an example of the second level of affixation. The word showing second level of affixation in the sentence above is the word *preparations*. The root of the word *preparations* is the word *prepare* which is a verb that has a meaning 'to make something ready to be used'. The first level of affixation begins when the word *prepare* undergoes a derivation process with the addition of a derivational morpheme/ suffix *-ation*. The derivational morpheme in this case is a morpheme that has the characteristic of changing the word class. The result of the first level derivation process is the word *preparation* which is a noun with the meaning 'the act of getting ready for something'. Then, the second level of affixation begins with the result of the first level that becomes the base word of the second level. The base word of the second level is the noun *preparation*. The noun *preparation* receives the suffix *-s*, which is an inflectional morpheme indicating a plural noun. The result of this inflectional process is the word *preparations* which refers to a plural noun.

3.3.3 Third Level of Affixation

The third level of affixation occurs when a word receives three affixes in the form of derivational morphemes or inflectional morphemes. Unlike the second level, which only receives two affixes, at the third level a word receives three affixes, making the word more complex. The third level of affixation of a word can be seen in the following discussion.

- (1) *Unfortunately*, France is too far away for that (The Little Prince, 2018:37)

The data shows a word with a third level of affixation. The third level of affixation in the data above is due to the addition of three affixes in the form of derivational morphemes that change the word class and meaning of a word. The first level of affixation is shown by the addition of a derivational morpheme/suffix *-ate* to the base word *fortune*. The base word *fortune* is a noun with the meaning 'chance or luck'. The word has the addition of a

derivational morpheme/suffix *-ate*, which can change the word class. The result of the derivational process is the word *fortunate* which is an adjective with the meaning 'a piece of good luck'. Then, the process is continued by the second level of affixation. The second level of affixation is shown by adding the prefix *un-* to the base word *fortunate*. The word *fortunate* is the result of the first level of derivation. At the second level of affixation, the word gets an additional derivational morpheme in the form of the prefix *un-*, which changes the meaning of the word. The result of the second level of derivation is the word *unfortunate* which is an adjective with the meaning 'having bad luck' which has the opposite meaning with the word *fortunate*. The third level of affixation is indicated by the addition of a derivational morpheme/suffix *-ly*, which again changes the word class of a word. The base word of this third level is the result of the second level, namely the word *unfortunate*. The word *unfortunate* then undergoes a derivational process in the form of the addition of a derivational morpheme/suffix *-ly*. The result of the derivational process is the word *unfortunately* which is an adverb with the meaning 'expression to say that a particular situation makes one sad or disappointed'.

4 Conclusion

The forms of derivational and inflectional morphemes found in this research show various functions and meanings. The morphemes function to change the word class and the meaning of the base, change the meaning without any changes of word class of the base, and keep the word class and the meaning of the base. Derivational morphemes found in the data source are identified into several forms that change either the word class or the meaning of the base word, such as derivational morphemes used to form adjective from noun (*-ous* and *-ful*), to form adjective from verb (*-ible*, *-able*, *-ful*, and *-less*), to form adverb from adjective (*-ly*), to form noun from verb (*-er*, *-ion*, *-ment*, and *-ing*), to form noun from adjective (*-ness*), to form verb from adjective (*en-* and *-able*), to form noun from noun (*dis-*), to form adjective from adjective (*un-* and *in-*) and to form verb from verb (*re-*). Meanwhile, inflectional morphemes function to express grammatical information without changing the word class, such as *-s/es* (3rd person singular), *-ed* (past tense), *-ing* (progressive), *-s* (plural), *-er* (comparative degree), and *-est* (superlative degree). Overall, these morphemes play an essential role in forming words, showing grammatical relations, and enriching the structure and meaning of words in *The Little Prince*. Then, seen from the level of affixation, the affixation process on the words found in the data source can be classified into first level, second level, and third level of affixation.

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Authors' Contribution

Putu Dian Anastasya: Conceptualization, Data curation, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. **I Nyoman Kardana:** Formal analysis, Funding acquisition, Investigation, Methodology. **I Wayan Budiarta:** Supervision, Methodology, Validation, Writing – review & editing.

Statement of the use of AI

The author declares that, during the preparation of this manuscript, AI tools were used to assist with checking grammar and sentence clarity. However, all AI-generated suggestions were carefully verified and edited by the author

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