

COMPOUND WORD IN INTERNET DATING TERMS

* Husnun Habibah¹, Tatan Tawami²

Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Universitas Komputer Indonesia,
Jl. Dipati Ukur 112-116, Bandung, Indonesia
husnunhabibah25@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In this study the authors analyzed the Compound Word in Internet Dating Terms. The author focuses on analyzing the merge of words from existing words to rise the new words/meanings or can also be referred as compounding. The data taken by the author are the words that exist in the term of internet dating by taking examples from cases in social media, namely Twitter. Examples of data cases taken by the author are calculated from March 31, 2020 - March 31, 2022. The method used in this study is descriptive analysis. According to Rakhmat (68), descriptive research method is a research method that only describes situations/events but also explain the data systematically. In researching the selected data, the writer classified the data based on the elements that make up words/expressions on internet dating by focusing on Endocentric and Exocentric Compound. From the analysis, it can be concluded that compound words in internet dating terms were formed mostly by free morphemes, most compound words were not compositional. This means that most compound words are exocentric.

Keywords: Compounding, Exocentric, Endocentric, Internet dating

INTRODUCTION

Humans utilize language to communicate with one another both in person and online. With the passage of time, language continues to develop following technological developments and changing times, giving rise to new words or expressions as a result of the conflict. Technological developments give today make people more channels to express themselves through language. According to Jannah, Widayati, and Kusmiyati (2017), language has an important role in communication in society. It is also said that humans have used language as a tool to communicate since ancient times to be able to interact socially with each other. Language evolves over time in response to technological advancements and societal changes, giving rise to new words or expressions as a consequence of the interaction. Today's technology advancements give people more ways to express themselves through words. The way people interact with technology and the digital environment alters how they talk, inspiring new word creation. Additionally, with the Covid-19 epidemic making it difficult for individuals to contact directly during the past years, technology has emerged as the most effective conduit for communication in order to prevent the spread of viruses.

Indirect communication is closely related to technology and social media. People frequently use informal language on social media, therefore modern culture creates new words by combining two or more words to create new terms with new meanings. Thus, it can be said that the existence of technology has indirectly changed the way people communicate and has produced a new popular culture in terms of internet dating, which is specifically related to the compounding process. People on social media, in particular, frequently blend existing words to create new terms that emerge from the dynamics of

the interactions carried out, as a means of adapting to this digital communication channel. As we frequently hear, the term "ballroom" is frequently used while discussing an occasion or gathering. Looking at its formation process, ballroom is made up of the word "ball" and "room," respectively. Literally, it can mean a room where balls are kept, a room where people can play with balls, or the round shape (ball) part of the room. However, if we go through the meaning or how it is used in the communities, the word ballroom gives rise to a new term that denotes a party hall or a hall for large gatherings instead of meaning the ball of the room. Noting this example, it is obvious that this kind of word derives its meaning not from the elements constructing it, rather from the convention within the community, the meaning is idiosyncratic. In morphology, this kind of word formation process is known as compounding.

Understanding the combination of words becomes crucial to comprehend since there are linguistic rules that are instinctively adaptive to changing times and/or technology developments in the process. As a result, understanding how a new term might be generated and adopted by the general public through procedures and applicable linguistic laws is critical since it can raise individuals' language awareness. As previously stated, technological advancements today make it easier for people to express themselves by allowing them to blend existing words to create new meanings. This is one of the consequences of the convergence of technology and language.

METHOD

The method used in this research is descriptive analysis. According to Rakhmat (68), descriptive research method is a method that only describes situations/events. This study does not seek/explain a relationship, nor does it test hypotheses or make predictions. Descriptive means describing variable by variable, one by one. In essence, descriptive research method collects data univariately. In Rahmat Djalaludin, the research method aims to systematically describe facts or characteristics of a particular population in a factual and accurate manner Isaac dan Michael (17). Another characteristic of the descriptive research method is the point of observation and a natural setting (naturalistic setting). Researchers act as observers. He only makes behavioral categories, observes symptoms, and records them in his observation book. In this study, a descriptive analysis approach was used to explain the data systematically and descriptively.

In conducting this study, the authors carried out several stages in the data collection process, namely the authors searched for these online dating words/expressions with a time span from March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022 on the internet carefully, through reading, observing, and analyzing techniques using McCarthy's theory (2017). There are several ways how data is collected by the author, namely, first, one by one, the data on the online dating term is broken down into its word-forming elements to determine what morphemes make up the word. Then the structural elements that make up the word are explained in terms of parts to make it easier for the author to analyze the data. The next step is to explain the process of interpreting the online dating term based on the structural elements that make up the word. Then, the last is determining the meaning composition process that build the online dating term whether it is endocentric or exocentric. After observing, the results are shown in the findings below.

RESULTS

According to Wisniewski (30), compounding is the process of compounding words by forming new word units by combining two or more other words that act as one unit to produce compound words. So, it can be concluded, compounding is combining words into new words using a merging process. Whereas according to Booij, G (2005) Compounding, on the other hand, is accounted for by a set of Word Structure Rules which form part of syntax, and combine lexical stems into compounds. So simply, compounding is the merging of existing words by forming new words to give rise to new meanings.

The following are compound words found in internet dating terms:

1. Breadcrumbing
“Stringing people along is a way some people manipulate you into waiting for nothing but more ‘waiting for nothing’. It’s called **breadcrumbing** and you deserve better. Time to cut those cords.” In Twitter, account by @IAmMyBestToday (20 February 2022)
2. Casual Relationship
“Came around this bunch of guys seeking for casual relationship. When I asked them to define **casual relationship**.
They : it's not really a relationship, no strings, no emotions but can have fun be romantic.
Me : Dude, you mean you want to fuck, athane ?” In Twitter, account by @Thivyawathy1 (6 February 2022)
3. Catfishing
“**Catfishing** is crazy just be yourself” In Twitter, account by @FraudActivity_ (31 March 2022)
4. Firedooring
“Wanted closure to sort things OR cease contact but was convinced into holding back from doing just that. Telling you it's not what they want & then continuing to touch base infrequently - **Firedooring** it's called then ghosting as means to end things when they're done” In Twitter, account by @MasculineAware (22 April 2020)
5. Genderfluid
“Hi. Hello. I’m **genderfluid**. I’m non-binary. I’m MOSTLY trans masculine but am okay being femme!! But overall, I wanna be seen more so as a fem boy or have no gender, I also like they/he pronouns. Gender is a spectrum and different for everyone, non-binary is too. That’s it.” In Twitter, account by @ChaosElliot (30 March 2022).
6. Ghosting
“**Ghosting** is when you disappear out of someone's life because you're no longer interested in them, instead of telling them directly. It's more abrupt than breadcrumbing: the ghoster will suddenly stop replying to texts and won't answer calls, and the ghostee is usually left hurt and confused.” In Twitter, account by @stclairjpeg (31 March 2022)
7. Kittenfishing
“A friend of mine described one well known social media figure who has a social media profile picture that is many years younger as “**kittenfishing**,” (a true 21st century phenomenon.)” In Twitter, account by @CDANAdmin (6 April 2021)
8. Love bombing
“Is someone **love bombing** you? Your discernment is correct because someone here is confused love with lust. You may have to set boundaries with a few lovers if you’re

dating more than one person, because someone has negative intentions &” from Twitter account @mysticxbeauti (25 March 2022)

9. Submarining

“Did you just get haunted, or zombied, but it felt even worse than usual? Maybe you were submarined! **Submarining** is when your old flame pops back up in your life after a lengthy period of silence, but rather than copping to the disappearance, simply acts as if dipping without warning is normal behavior. This person knows they have you wrapped around their finger, so why put in the effort to apologize or explain? They don't need to! If you're getting submarined, pro tip: Get out of there before the whole thing sinks.” In Twitter, account by @sexxydecoy (21 July 2021)

10. Summer fling

“Xh! Cw// bxb Odehan au **Summer fling** is a short-term relationship that happen in summer. But can they change the word “short” into “long”? “ In Twitter, account by @xSirLean (27 March 2022)

11. Turkey dump

“Update on mystery cutie with the kn95: i know his name and he lives on the same floor as one of my friends, but he has a gf from home but it’s the first semester of freshmen year so you know the **turkey dump** is coming up so /hj” In Twitter, account by @stillinaugust (15 September 2021)

DISCUSSION

1. Data 1 “Breadcrumbing”

In simple terms, the word-forming elements of this breadcrumbing can be analyzed as follows:

[bread]+[crumb]+[-ing]

From the above analysis, the word breadcrumbing is formed from 3 morphemes, namely 2 free morphemes and 1 bound morpheme. [bread] acts as free root which has a noun class, [crumb] acts as a core word which has a noun class, and the last word-forming element [-ing] acts as a verb-forming suffix.

The morpheme [bread] as free root literally means bread, in addition [crumb] as free root literally means crumb, and the last [-ing] as a verb-forming suffix serves as a complement to the word breadcrumb. However, if put together, it means not as bread crumbs, but gives rise to new meanings. If interpreted according to internet dating terms, the word breadcrumbing means someone who sends flirty messages to other people but doesn't really want to date them. But on the other hand, that person also doesn't want to let go of the target or some kind of false hope that makes someone waiting for nothing.

By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of breadcrumbing is not produced from one of the elements that make up the word. Therefore, breadcrumbing is expressed as a headless compound whose meaning is obtained from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

2. Data 2 “Casual relationship”

In simple terms, the word-forming elements of this casual relationship can be analyzed as follows:

[casual]+[relate]+[-ion]+[-ship]

From the above analysis, the word casual relationship is formed from 2 free morphemes [casual] which acts as a free root which has an adjective word class, and

[relationship] which also acts as free root which has a noun word class. However, the second formation is a nested structure forming from [relate] + [-ion] + [-ship].

[casual] as free root literally has a relaxed meaning, [relate] as free root literally has the meaning of linking which has a verb class, [-ion] has a noun class that acts as a complement to casual relate, while [-ship] has a noun class that complements the word casual relation. However, if interpreted based on internet dating terms, the word casual relationship is 2 people who are in a relationship but often have sex regularly but the relationship does not lead to a serious relationship.

By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of a casual relationship derived from one of the elements that make up the word, namely the casual. Therefore, a casual relationship is expressed as left headed whose meaning is derived from one of its constituent elements (endocentric).

3. Data 3 “Catfishing”

More simply the word-forming elements of catfishing can be analyzed as follows:

[cat]+[fish]+[-ing]

Based on the above analysis, the word catfishing is formed in 3 morphemes, namely 2 free morphemes and 1 bound morpheme. [cat] which is free root and has a noun word class, [fish] which means fish acts as a free root has a noun word class and [-ing] as a verb-forming suffix which acts as a complement from the word catfish.

Literally the meaning of catfishing is a fishing cat, but if interpreted in internet dating the term has a meaning which means someone who is trying to be someone else or not being himself with the aim of attracting the attention of someone who he likes so that person likes him. By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of catfishing is not derived from one of the word-forming elements. Therefore, it is an exocentric compound word.

4. Data 4 “Firedoor”

In simpler terms, the word-forming elements of firedoor can be analyzed as follows:

[fire]+[door]+[-ing]

Based on the above analysis, the word firedoor is formed in 3 morphemes, namely 2 free morphemes and 1 bound morpheme. [fire] has a meaning as fire which acts as a free root and has a noun word class, [door] has a meaning as door that acts as a free root and have a noun word class, while [-ing] acts as a verb-forming suffix to complement the word firedoor.

Literally the word firedoor has the meaning of a fiery door, but if it is interpreted in internet dating terms, the word firedoor is when someone sends a message to the target, then the target replies to the message, but that person does not reply again. So, in short, the person does not want the message to stop at the target but must stop at that person. By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of firedoor is not derived from one of the elements that make up the word. Therefore, firedoor is declared as a headless compound whose meaning is obtained from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

5. Data 5 “Genderfluid”

In simpler terms, the word-forming elements of genderfluid can be analyzed as follows:

[gender]+[fluid]

From the above analysis, the word genderfluid is formed in 2 free morphemes. [gender] which means sex and acts as a free root which also has a noun word class. Whereas [fluid] which means liquid acts as a free root which has a noun word class. Literally the word genderfluid means genital fluid, but if interpreted in internet dating terms, genderfluid means someone who can identify his appearance as male or female on different days. So, it can be said that genderfluid is a thought about the mental self. So, people who are genderfluid can identify themselves as male or female based on how the term feels to them. By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of genderfluid is not generated from one of the word-forming elements. Therefore, genderfluid is declared as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

6. Data 6 “Ghosting”

[ghost]+[-ing]

From the analysis above, the word ghosting consists of 1 free morpheme and 1 creation morpheme. [ghost] literally means ghost that acts as a core word or free root which has a noun class. While the suffix [-ing] which acts as a bound root complements the word ghost.

Thus, the word ghosting can literally be interpreted as someone who leaves a target without certainty by simply disappearing. Therefore, ghosting is expressed as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

7. Data 7 “Kittenfishing”

In simpler terms, the word-forming elements of kittenfishing can be analyzed as follows:

[kitten]+[fish]+[-ing]

Based on the above analysis, the word kittenfishing consists of 3 morphemes, namely 2 free morphemes and 1 bound morpheme. [kitten] which means a kitten acts as a free root which has a noun word class, [fish] which means a fish that acts as a free root has a noun word class, while [-ing] as a verb-forming suffix that complement to a word kittenfish.

If interpreted literally, the word kittenfishing means fishing for kittens, but if interpreted based on internet dating terms the word kittenfishing is actually similar to the meaning of catfishing. Kittenfishing means someone who changes his online dating profile photo with someone else's photo or changes his job status starting from a restaurant waiter become a doctor. The reason is done with the aim of attracting the attention of someone who is the target. By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of kittenfishing is not derived from one of its word-forming elements. Therefore, kittenfishing is declared as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

8. Data 8 “Love bombing”

In simpler terms, the word-forming elements of love bombing can be analyzed as follows:

[love]+[bomb]+[-ing]

According to the above analysis, the word love bombing consists of 3 morphemes, namely 2 free morphemes and 1 bound morpheme. [love] which means love acts as

a free root has a noun word class, [bomb] which means bomb acts as a free root has a noun word class, while [-ing] which is a verb-forming suffix complements the word lovebomb.

Taken literally, love bombing could mean explosive love for other. However, in internet dating terms, the word love bombing is when someone gives excessive attention and affection to the target, but where the relationship has started to commit, then that person shows his bad nature. People who love bombing are often manipulative people. By looking at the meaning process, it can be seen that as a compound word, the meaning of love bombing is not derived from one of the elements that make up the word. Therefore, love bombing is expressed as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

9. Data 9 “Submarining”

[sub-]+[marine]+[-ing]

From the above analysis, the word submarining consists of 1 free morpheme and 2 bound morphemes. The prefix [sub-] which acts as a bound root complements the word marine. [marine] literally means deep sea, acting as a core word or free root which has an adjective word class. While the suffix [-ing] acts as a bound root which complements the word submarine.

Thus, the word submarining can be interpreted as someone who has disappeared or left for a long time but reappears in a long period of time. Same as in the example data above which says that it is submarining. The meaning there is that he had been abandoned by someone for a long time, but that someone reappeared in his life. Therefore, submarining is expressed as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

10. Data 10 “Summer fling”

[summer] + [fling]

Based on the data above, the word summer fling consists of 2 free morphemes. [summer] literally means summer which acts as a core word or free root which has a noun class. Meanwhile, [fling] literally means to throw which acts as a core word or free root which has a noun class.

Thus, the word summer fling can literally be interpreted as someone who has a relationship only during the summer, this summer fling tends to occur when the holiday season arrives and ends when the leaves have started to fall again. As happened in the example data above which says that the term summer fling occurs only during the summer. Therefore, summer fling is expressed as a headless compound whose meaning is derived from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

11. Data 11 “Turkey dump”

In simpler terms, the word-forming elements of turkey dump can be analyzed as follows:

[turkey]+[dump]

From the above analysis, the word turkey dump is formed in 2 free morphemes. [turkey] which means turkey or one of the country names from the middle east acts as a free root which has a noun word class, while [dump] which means disposal acts as a free root which has a verb word class.

If interpreted literally turkey dump means dumping turkey, but if interpreted based on internet dating terms turkey dump this often happens to teenagers or students. Turkey dump is when someone is in a seasonal relationship where 2 people are in a relationship when they are still in high school, but when they enter college, they choose to end the relationship for reasons that are difficult to maintain. Therefore, turkey dump is declared as a headless compound whose meaning is obtained from outside its constituent elements (exocentric).

CONCLUSION

From the data above, the authors found 8 internet terms including breadcrumbing, casual relationship, catfishing, fireproofing, genderfluid, kittenfishing, love bombing and turkey dump. As for the results of the author's analysis, the authors found 10 data that are included in the headless compound (exocentric) and 1 data, namely casual relationships which is included in the left headed (endocentric). Thus, it can be concluded that this analysis only focuses on the process of meaning that occurs in the formation of compounding words.

REFERENCES

- Booij, G. (2005). *Compounding and derivation. Morphology and its demarcations*, 109-132.
- Carstairs-McCarthy, Andrew. (2017). *Introduction to English Morphology: words and their structure*. Edinburgh university press.
- Faraz, H. A., & Ariyanti, L. (2021). *Register Used in Reptile Lovers Facebook Forum. LANGUAGE HORIZON*, 9(2), 1-6.
- Habibah, Husnun. (2022). *Compound Word in Internet Dating Terms*. Bandung: Universitas Komputer Indonesia.
- Irma, Rolla, Yola Merina, and Melati Theresia. (2018). "Slang Word Formation in Pitch Perfect Movie." *TELL-US Journal* 4.1.
- Khoerunnisa, Siti. (2021). *Kata Slang Bahasa Inggris Bertema Dunia Hiburan Di Media Sosial Twitter: Kajian Sosiopragmatik*. Diss. Bandung: Universitas Komputer Indonesia.
- Rumiyati, Arum. (2015). *A Morphological Analysis Of Compound Words Used In Novel "The Single Girl's To-do List" By Lindsey Kelk*. Sukrakarta : Diss. Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta.
- Suparno, Darsita. (2015). *"Morfologi Bahasa Indonesia"*.
- Sulaiman, Exzayrani, and Mohamad Elmy Maswandi Suhaimi. (2020). "Analisis Neologisme: COVID-19 di Negara Brunei Darussalam." *PENDETA Journal of Malay Language, Education and Literature* 11: 58-79.
- Tawami, Tatan. (2012). "SUFFIX SOME IN ENGLISH: A Morphosemantic Study".
- Putri, T. L., & Yuwita, M. R. (2021). "PENGUNAAN KATA "COMPUTER" DALAM FILM HIDDEN FIGURES (KAJIAN SEMANTIK), *Jurnal Mahadaya*, Vol. 1, No. 2
- Zaim, M. (2015). "Pergeseran Sistem Pembentukan Kata Bahasa Indonesia: Kajian Akronim, Blending, dan Kliping." *Linguistik Indonesia* 33.2 (2015): 173-192.