

An Analysis of Compound Words n The Novel “The Fault In Our Starts”

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Abstract

This study discusses compound words in English novels which aims to find out what types of compound words and which types of compound words are used the most in the novel. The method used in this research is descriptive analysis with a qualitative approach (Miles, Huberman & Saldana, 2018). Data collection used documentation which the source is from a novel by John Green entitled The Fault in Our Stars. Data analysis was based on Yule (2016). The results obtained that there are 207 data consisting of two types of compound words, namely endocentric with 152 data (73%) and exocentric 55 data (27%) which are formed from the word compound nouns (N+N, A+N, V+N, P+N), compound adjectives formed from (A+A, N+A, V+A), and compound verbs (N+V, A+V, V +V). The type of compound that is most widely used in the novel is endocentric compound which has the highest percentage.

Keywords: An Analysis, Compound Words, Novel

INTRODUCTION

Literary work is a form of thought conveyed by a person. Common literary works are usually in the form of an imitation of reality, because the problem is never presented from real life, but in fictional form such as short stories, novels, and plays (Andriana & Rohmah, 2019). Novel is a literary work in the form of prose which contains a series of stories of a person's life with other people around him and by highlighting the character and attitude of the perpetrator (Nurgiyantoro & Press, 2018). A novel is a story or fiction, it can also be called a narrative text or narrative discourse . Novel is one of the interesting media used to learn a language, aspecially English. (Jazadi, 2004) says that English as a foreign language is being made as a compulsory subject in secondary schools throughout Indonesia since 1945. In line with Jazadi, Muryani & Iman (2017), argue that English as a foreign language that should be taught by the teacher with creative learning media. One of them is by using the novel. Unknowingly the learner when reading a novel learns the structure and has a lot of vocabulary mastery. One of the novels with an interesting storyline that is also adapted to the big screen is The Fault in Our Stars, about two lovers who are both struggling with cancer. The language style of this novel is very simple so that English learners can easily understand the contents of the novel. However, there are not a few words that make it difficult for students to interpret them.

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that discusses the smallest elements of sentences, namely words or lexemes (Verhaar, 2016). morphology is the study of word formation, including the ways new words are coined in the languages of the world, and the way forms of words are varied depending on how they're used in sentences (Lieber & Štekauer, 2014). The word class is divided into two major parts, namely the open class and the closed class. Open class consists of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs (Akmajian, et al, 2017). Meanwhile, close class words are articles (elements that modify nouns), demonstratives, conjunctions (conjunctions between words, phrases, clauses, or sentences), prepositions (words that appear in front of nouns), and pronominal (pronouns of persons or objects). In studying the structure of words, there is a process that combines two or more words into one so that a new meaning emerges, this process is called compounding. The result of compounding is compound words. Based on (Aronoff & Fudeman, 2011), compound words are combinations of two or more words that give rise to new meanings. Other linguist states that compound word is a word formed by directly combining two free roots and then forming a new word which is usually noun and adjective (Harley & Noyer, 1999).

In Indonesia, English is one of the languages studied at school. In the learning process, there are still many students who have difficulty understanding compound words. Students assume that compound words are the same as phrases, so that mistakes often occur in the translation process in understanding the meaning. In reality, the two are very different and can be easily identified. (Chaer, 2012) reveals that a phrase is a grammatical unit in the form of a combination of words that are non-perspective, or a combination of words that can also fill one of the syntactic functions in a sentence. Murdibjo & Murdibjo in (Sitorus & Sipayung, 2018) describes a phrase is a group of words, which has a unit of definition, but it cannot be a complete sentence. This is also supported by the opinion of (Kridalaksana, 2008), a phrase is a combination of two or more words which are not predicative in nature, the combination can be tight and tenuous. A phrase is a group of words that form a unit and unite and have a head at the core, e.g. nouns or verbs (Van Gelderen, 2010).

Kridalaksana (2008) states that there are several characteristics of compound words, namely inseparability, inexplicability, and irreversibility. Insertion means that a compound word cannot be inserted by a new word between the two words because it will affect its meaning, while a phrase can be inserted by a word between the two words and will not affect the initial meaning. Compound words also do not experience expansion like phrases, in order to maintain the meaning of the combination of two or more words. This was confirmed by (Gorys, 1980), he said that compound words only consist of basic words, so the constituent elements are in the form of a single form. Another feature that distinguishes compound words from phrases is irreversibility, which means that the constituent elements cannot be exchanged between the first and the next elements.

Another concept of compounding comes from (Booij, 2007) states that compounding is a combination of two or more lexemes. (Moeliono et al., 2017) explains that another feature of compound words is the combination of two or more words so closely that they cannot be separated or cannot be given competitive information. This is because when the elements forming a compound word join, then the meaning of each of the previous elements will be released so

as to create a new meaning or meaning. For example, Blackbird, the word when viewed from its constituent elements is the word Black + Bird, when interpreted directly is a black colored bird. However, in reality the word means a type of bird. Breakfast, the constituent elements are Break + fast, when interpreted it is not broken quickly, but breakfast.

The two examples above clearly show how the process of compounding occurs in a word and its meaning so as to produce a compound word. (Fromkin et al., 2014) revealed that compound words are one of the most common types of words that are even used in everyday life so that they contribute to vocabulary development when learning a language. Compound words also have categorization based on their constituent elements and their meaning (Haspelmath & Sims, 2013).

Based on its constituent elements, (O'Grady et al., 1996) explains that compound words consist of three types, namely noun compound words, formed from two or more words and the head of the combined word is a noun. In general, noun compound words in English are formed from a noun (N) + a noun (N), for example, hairnet, website, newspaper. Verbs (V) + nouns (N) for example swearword, playtime, drop hammer, adjectives (A) + nouns (N) such as blackboard, greenhouse, angrybird, and prepositions (P) + nouns (N), overcoat, in-group, outpost. Another type is adjective compound words, in which the head of the word combination is an adjective, such as N + A (sky-high, coal-black, oil-rich), A+A (grey-green), and P+A (underful, overactive). Next is a compound word that has a verb as the head. V+V (stir-fry, freeze-dry), N+V (hand-wash, steam-clean), A+V (dry-clean, whitewash), P+V (underestimate).

Furthermore, the type of compound words based on the form of its first meaning is endocentric compound, that is one of its constituent elements contributes meaning and there is still a relationship between the first and second forming elements. For example, Blackbird in the previous example which means a type of bird. This shows that the right head of the word is Bird, it can be predicted that the meaning of the word is still related to Bird 'bird'. Second, compound words are exocentric, namely the constituent elements do not contribute anything to their meaning, and there is no relationship between the first and the following forming elements. For example, understand (compound verb), consisting of Under (P) + Stand (V). It can be seen that each of these elements, if interpreted, has nothing to do with the meaning of the compound word Understand. Therefore, understand is included in the type of exocentric compound words. Likewise with Neighbor and breakfast.

The previous researches were written by (Rumiyati et al., 2015), (Lestari, 2019), (Simatupang & Supri, 2020) with the title Compound Words That Accurate During the Global Pandemic Covid-19. The aim of his research is to discover the use of compound words and their categorization during the Covid-19 era. Compound Words in English (Christianto, 2020), in his research he analyzes the structure of the formation of compound words in English which are classified into types of compound words and their lexical categories. Compound Words in The Land of Stories the Wishing Spell Novel by Chris Colfer (Swari et al., 2022), the results of the objectives obtained show that compound words are divided into three types, namely noun compound words found in 73 (69%) data, adjective compounds 17 (16%) data, and verb compounds 16 (15%). Morphological Analysis of Compound Words Used in Colleen Hoover's It Ends with Us and Delia Owens'

Where the *Crawdads Sing* Novels (Maharani & Refnaldi, 2022). This study analyzes two novels to find the structure and categories of compound words based on (Carstairs-McCarthy, 2017) theory.

The four studies above only focus on the types, categories, and meanings of compound words based on their constituent structures. In fact, other linguists argue that compound words are divided into categories based on their constituent elements and categories based on the formation of their meaning (Haspelmath & Sims, 2013). Therefore, the purpose of this study is to identify the types of compound words based on the formation of their meanings and which types are most widely used in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel. The results of this study are expected to be a guideline for English learners who still have difficulty understanding compound words and can be used as a reference for other researchers who are interested in researching topics related to compound words.

METHOD

This study uses qualitative descriptive analysis. As explained by (Miles & Huberman, 2018) that descriptive qualitative research is a study that explains phenomena that occur around in detail without statistical calculations. This is in accordance with what is discussed in this study, namely describing noun compounds in English with data sourced from a novel written by a native English speaker, namely Jhon Green in 2012 with the title "*The Fault in Our Stars*". This novel is one of the novels that was successfully filmed 2 years after the novel was published, because it has a very interesting story so that many readers want the story in the novel to be visualized in real terms on the film.

Data collection was carried out in a documented manner based on (Creswell, 2012). He said that technical documentation is the collection of data obtained from journals, articles, books, or forms of literary works. This is in accordance with the data source used in this study, namely a literary work in the form of a novel. The data are words that are classified into compound words. The data analysis technique uses the steps described by Miles, Huberman & Saldana (2018). They said that in a qualitative descriptive approach there were three steps taken, namely collecting data from a specified source in the form of a novel, after the data was collected then analyzing it according to the required theory, in this study data analysis of compound words was based on (Yule, 2016)'s theory and to find out the frequency of compound words that appears the most is used the formula $P = x/n \times 100\%$. The last step taken is to draw conclusions from the discussion obtained through analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Based on collecting and analyzing the data, compound words based on the type of their meaning in the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*, namely endocentric and exocentric compounds which are included in noun, adjective, and verb compound words. The data shows that there are 207 compound words in the novel, consisting of 155 endocentric compounds (73%) and 55 data (27%) exocentric. The types of compound words based on the meaning found are divided into 126 noun endocentric compound words, 23 data adjectives, and 3 data verbs. Furthermore, for exocentric compound words of the noun type, 26 data were found, 17 data for adjectives, and 12 data for verbs. It can be seen from the amount of data and

percentages obtained, this shows that the type of compound word based on meaning that often appears and the highest percentage is endocentric compound words.

Besides using the theory from McCharty (2002) in analyzing the data, this research also uses the Oxford Dictionary to find word classes that are included in compound words that have been collected, as well as to find out the meaning contained in each of the forming elements so that compound words can be categorized presented by McCharty.

Endocentric Compound Words

Kerraf (1980) said that the frequency of compound words that often and occurs the most is endocentric. This statement is proven from the results of this study, that endocentric is the most common type of compound word found. McCharty (2002) defines endocentric compounds as meanings that can be predicted from one of the constituent elements. Supporting statement from other linguist, Endocentric is one of the constituents plays the role of head and a hyponymic relation is observable between the compound and the head element (Bloomfield in Diyanati et al, 2021). Endocentric compound words consist of three types, namely:

*Data 1. I used to play **basketball***

Data 1 is part of the noun compound that appears in the novel and belongs to the endocentric category. This is because basketball has a head which is one of its constituent elements, namely the ball (N), it means a round object used for throwing, hitting or kicking in games and sports. The supporting element (root) is the basket (N). It means a container or holding or carrying things. Furthermore, when there is a merger between elements, based on the Oxford Dictionary compound word basketball (N) is a sport that uses a large ball with five players.

*Data 2. August said as he heard my **footsteps***

The next data is footsteps. It can be seen that the structure of the noun compound words found consists of foot (N) + steps (N) + -s. Foot is the lowest part of the leg, below the ankle, on which a person or animal stands. Step is one of a series of things that you do in order to achieve something. This data shows that compound words in English also experience inflection, with the affixation of -s suffix indicating that the noun is plural. The appearance of the suffix does not affect the overall meaning of the compound word. Therefore, footsteps is the sound or mark made each time your foot touches the ground when you are walking or running.

*Data 3 ... **swing set**, which was looking pretty...*

This third data is an open compound because there is space between its constituent elements. The word swing belongs to the class of verb which means to move backwards or forwards or from side to side while hanging from a fixed point. Set includes a class of nouns which means a group of similar things that belong together in some way. When they are combined, they become a noun compound, namely swing set which means a frame for children to play on including one or more swings and often a slide.

The data above is a noun compound word, this is because the head of the word combination belongs to the class of nouns with variants of its constituent

elements, namely N+N, A+N, V+N. McCharty (2002) reveals that a noun compound word is a compound word whose main element is a noun and its dependent elements can come from categories of nouns, adjectives, verbs or prepositions. In addition, the heads of compound words in the data above are generally located on the right. This is in accordance with what was revealed by Katamba (1993) that in determining the types of compound words can be seen from the head on the right.

*Data 4. really **good-looking** people are stupid, ...*

Good-looking is connected with (-) which makes it known as a Hyphenated compound word, meaning that a sign (-) is given between two combinations of words. Good (A) has the meaning of high quality or an acceptable standard. Looking is a gerund consisting of look + -ing suffix. It means that having a special appearance. Meanwhile, good-looking (A) means especially people who are physically attractive.

*Data 5. Kids were climbing all over this huge **oversize** skeleton sculpture*

The word oversize is formed from the combination of two words, namely over (P) as a root which means resting on the surface of somebody/something and partly or completely covering them/it and size (N) as a head which means how large or small a person or thing is. Meanwhile, when the two words are combined into a compound word oversize (N) which means bigger than the normal size, too big. When viewed from the merging of the two words, each is not the head and root of each of the constituent elements. this does not mean that the word is not a compound word, to prove it, one can look back at the basic theory of compound words, namely the combination of two or more words which creates a new unit word with a new meaning as well. Because of this, even though data 6 does not have a head, it is still included in the concept of a compound word, which consists of the words over and size which are combined to become oversize.

*Data 6. ... one of those inflatable **moonwalk** machines, ...*

Moonwalk consists of moon (N) and walk (V) which are combined into moonwalk (V). in this data the moon is the root which means the round object that moves around the earth once every 27 days and shines at night by flight reflected from the sun. walk is head which means to move or go somewhere by putting one foot in front of the other on the ground, but without running. Meanwhile, when the two words are combined to become moonwalk, it means to walk on the moon.

*Data 7. He'd **overdone** everthing at the picnic*

Over (P) means resting on the surface of somebody/something and partially or completely covering them. Done/do (V) is used to refer to actions that you do not mention by name or do not know about. Meanwhile, when the two words are combined, overdone (V) is to do something too much, to make something seem larger, better, worse or more important than it really is. Overdone is a word that comes from overdo. This shows that there are tenses that make changes to compound words.

Exocentric Compound Words

McCharty (2002) says that compound words that are included in exocentric are the meanings that are not related to each of its constituent elements. meaning that two or more words that are combined cannot be used as a basis or benchmark in interpreting a compound word. Plag (2002) also states that exocentric compound words are compound words whose semantic core is found outside the

word. An exocentric compound is one which is not a hyponym of one of its elements, and thus appears to lack a head or perhaps to have a head (or 'centre') external to the compound itself (Bauer, 2008). Below are some examples of data found in *The Fault in Our Stars* which are included in exocentric compound words.

Data 8. ... with Mom the various benefits and drawbacks of the available

The ninth data is a form of noun compound found in the novel. Drawbacks are formed from the combination of the words Draw (V) + Back (N) + -s. Draw is to make a picture, or a picture of something, with a pencil, pen or chalk. While Back (N) is the part of the human body that is on the opposite side to the chest. The suffix -s indicates that the word expresses a plural form or more than one. When all these elements combine, the drawbacks mean a disadvantage or a problem that makes something a less attractive idea.

*Data 9. ... full and **twist-tie**, behind the couch ...*

Another noun compound word is twist-tie, formed from the combination of the word twist (V) which means to bend or turn something into a particular shape. Next tie (V) to attach or hold two or more things together using string, rope, etc. when combined into one, the twist-tie (N) means a piece of wire covered with plastic or paper that you bend and turn in order to keep a plastic bag closed. This compound word belongs to the type of hyphen compound, between words are given hyphens because the last letter of the first word and the initial letter of the second word are the same letter. To avoid pronunciation errors, hyphens are given between the two words.

*Data 10. ... and precious in our **hometown***

Hometown is included in the category of exocentric noun compounds. This is because the two words that make up it have absolutely nothing to do with the word hometown when it becomes a compound word. Home is a class of nouns which means house or flat that you live in, especially with your family. Meanwhile, town is a type of noun that has the meaning of a place with many houses, shops, etc. where people live and work. However, when combined into hometown (N), it means the place where you were born and lived as a child.

*Data 11. Two guys sitting in the **lightwash** of huge television*

In addition to noun compound words, exocentric adjective compound words are also found in the novel. One of them is lightwash (A). The combined words are light (N) and wash (V). when viewed from the two constituent elements, this word does not have a head and a root which indicates that lightwash is included in an adjective compound. However, when it is combined, it will be seen that lightwash is included in the adjective. Light is the energy from the sun, a lamp, etc. That makes it possible to see things. Wash is to make something/somebody clean using water and usually soap. While the combination makes lightwash has a color meaning that has two shades lighter than medium wash denim.

*Data 12. Filled it **halfway** with water and left the flowers ...*

Halfway consists of the word half (N) meaning either of two equal parts into which something is or can be divided and way (N) is a method, style or manner of doing something. Whereas when combined into a halfway (A) it means in the middle of a period of time.

*Data 13. We can't **eavesdrop**, Hazel*

Other data found in the novel is eavesdrop. Verb compound words consisting of the word eaves (N), the lower edges of a roof that sticks out over the

walls. And drop (V) as head which means to allow something to fall by accident. When combined into one eavesdrop (V) means to listen secretly to what other people are saying.

*Data 14. Look at his face **blindfolded** by bandages*

Not only the addition of the -s suffix, but in exocentric verb compound words there is also a tense. This of course adds to the variation of the data. For example, data 15 is the word blindfolded. The word is formed from blind + fold + -ed. Blind belongs to the class of adjectives which means not able to see. Meanwhile, folded in the past form of fold is a verb which means to bend something, especially paper or cloth, so that one part lies on top of another part.

From some of the exocentric compound word data described above, it can be seen that word-forming elements are not always the basis for determining the category of compound words based on their lexical categories. It is evident from the several examples above that there is no head or root which makes a compound word one part of one of its constituent words. However, this does not mean that exocentric compound words do not have a head on one of the constituent elements.

CONCLUSION

From the results and discussion above, it can be concluded that the compound words in *The Fault in Our Stars* consist of endocentric and exocentric compounds. From the frequency of occurrence, it can be seen that endocentric compound words appear the most, namely 152 data or 73% with 125 data for noun compound words, 25 data for adjective compounds, and 3 data for verb compounds. Meanwhile, 55 data or 27% of exocentric compound words were found consisting of 26 data of noun compounds, 17 data of adjective compounds, and 12 data of verb compounds. Noun compound words that are formed from a combination of word classes N+N, A+N, V+N, and P+N, adjective compound words that are formed from A+A, N+A, and V+A and verb compounds that consist of V+V, A+V, and N+V. Each of these compound words is formed from a combination of several word classes which are used to determine which category the data is obtained from.

Besides being able to be classified, compound words also have a way of writing that can be seen from the provisions of the English dictionary (Oxford Dictionary). Some of the writing of compound words based on the results of the analysis, namely the first is closed compound words, compound words are written without spaces between their constituent elements. Second, open compound words, writing that uses spaces between its constituent elements. The three hyphenated compounds which mean between the two forming words are given a hyphen (-). Compound words in English also experience inflectionalism with the emergence of affixes in the form of the suffix -s to express the word is plural, and the suffix -ing which indicates that one of the words is a gerund.

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