

ABSTRACT

Word formation is the centre of word study. It includes the study of prefixes and suffixes, and how they combine with roots or stems in order to create new words. Not every prefix or suffix is productive in making up derivatives. Certain productive affixes have high frequency of occurrence in the third year SMA textbooks, and some others have low frequency.

Because of this fact, I inquire a question : Are the more frequent used affixes understood more easily by the students than the less frequent affixes ? This thesis will try to compare the frequency of occurrence of the common verb-forming prefixes and suffixes, and the rank of the students' familiarity towards those affixes.

The descriptive research method is applied in this thesis in order to describe objectively the real condition of the problems in learning derivatives using the verb-forming affixes. The data were collected by giving a test to the English students of IKIP Sanata Dharma.

The result of the research shows that the verb-forming affixes with high frequency of occurrence are not always easily recognized and understood by the students. On the contrary, some of the verb-forming affixes with low frequency of occurrence are easily recognized.