

# A MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH COMPOUND WORDS IN TOLSTOY'S GOD SEES THE TRUTH, BUT WAITS

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**Abstrak:** Compounding adalah salah satu proses pembentukan kata dalam sebuah bahasa (O'Grady, 1996). Compounding bisa dikategorikan sebagai endocentric maupun exocentric. Endocentric dikatakan lebih produktif daripada exocentric (Katamba, 1994:320). *God Sees The Truth, But Waits* adalah cerita pendek yang menggunakan compounding dalam narasinya. Endocentric compounding yang ditemukan dalam cerita pendek ini ada 60 yang terdiri dari compound verb (46), compound adjective (4) dan compound noun (10). Masing-masing compound ini memiliki unsur pembentuk yang terdiri dari: verba, nomina, preposisi, adjectiva.

Kata Kunci: compounding, constituent, short story, noun, verb, adjective, preposition, endocentric, exocentric

## Introduction

All languages, on scientifically linguistic point of view, are equal. There are components of languages that are interrelated, such as: phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantic. Morphology is a branch of linguistic which investigates the word formation of a language. Mathew (1991: 3) states that morphology is a simple term for that branch of linguistic which concerns with formation of word in different uses and construction. It is in line with O'Grady who also mentions that morphology refers to system of categories and rules that are involved in word formation and interpretation (1996:132)

There are various processes of word formation, for instances: conversion, clipping, blending, backformation, compounding, affixation, and reduplication. Compounding is one of word formation processes which is very interesting since it can creates a new word whose meaning, sometimes cannot be traced back from its constituent. Moreover, compounding can create a larger word. O'Grady notes that compounding is the combination of lexical categories (noun, adjective, verb, or preposition) to create a larger word (1996:43).

Compounding word can be found both in spoken and written. Written material is a source of word formation in which compounding is easily found. Writers tend to use compounding to create a new word which fulfils their desires. This sentence is taken from Tolstoy' *God Sees The Truth, But Waits*:

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'Where *did you spend last night? Were you alone, or with a fellow-merchant?*

The above sentence has a compound word. That is compound noun. The construction *fellow-merchant* is a noun since it is preceded by an article *a*. *Fellow merchant* is a compound noun and it consists of noun and noun. *Fellow* is a noun and *merchant* is also a noun. *Fellow merchant* is an endocentric compound due to the fact that its meaning can be traced back from its constituents.

This research focuses on English compounding, precisely, endocentric compounding. This is due to the fact that endocentric construction is more productive than exocentric in creating new words. Baueur as quoted by Katamba (1993: 69) states that word formation process is productive if it is very general that affects a vast number of forms and creates many words. Furthermore, Bloomfield as quoted by Benczes states that the vast majority of English compound words are endocentric compounds since linguistic literature has tendency to mention exocentric construction only peripherally and views this construction as semantically non-transparent (2004:3). Moreover, exocentric compound tends to be used less frequently than endocentric compound in the creation of new word (Katamba, 1994:320).

The research is aimed to find out the types of endocentric constructions and the elements found in a short story since those constructions are commonly used by writers in their compositions.

One of the short stories that uses endocentric construction is *God Sees The Truth, But Waits*. *God Sees The Truth, But Waits* is a short story from Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910), he was a Russian author, essayist and philosopher. Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy was born on 28 August 1828 into a long line of Russian nobility. He was the fourth child of Countess Maria Volkonsky (who Tolstoy does not remember, as she died after giving birth to his sister Mariya in 1830) and Count Nicolay Ilyich Tolstoy (1797-1837) a Lieutenant Colonel who was awarded the order of St. Vladimir for his service. Many of his works are translated into various languages, includes English. One of his works is *God Sees The Truth, But Waits*. It told about a man, Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov, who was wrongly accused and banished to Siberia. The main topic of this short story is similar to *War and Peace* one of his master piece. (Merriman, 2007).

## **Theoretical Framework**

### **Compounding**

Morphology refers to the system of categories and rules which are involved in word formation and interpretation as stated by O'Grady and Guzman in O'Grady (1996: 1332). Furthermore, he states that word

formation is the use of variety of operation or process to modify the structure of word itself in order to express a new meaning. There are some processes of word formation, such as conversion, clipping, blending, back formation, affixation, reduplication and compounding. In this research, compounding will be the focus of the analysis since it has special feature, that is, it creates a new word which sometimes can not be traced back from its constituents. In addition, compounding raises perhaps even more acutely the issue of the interpenetration of morphology, the lexicon and syntax (Katamba, 1993:291)

O'Grady proposes that compounding is the combination of lexical category (noun, adjective, verbs, or prepositions) to create a larger word (1996:143). According to Bauer (2003:40), compounding is the formation of new lexeme by joining two or more lexemes. Lexeme is abstract dictionary words and they are realized by one or more word forms. Katamba mentions that compound word is a word made up of at least two bases which can occur elsewhere as independent word (1993:291). It can be concluded that compounding is a word formation process that combine two or more words to create a new word whose meaning sometimes cannot be traced back from its constituents.

### **English Compounding**

There are two types of compound words as stated by Katamba (1993:304). From the point of view of its 'head', compound word is classified into endocentric and exocentric compound. Endocentric compound is a construction of compound that is hyponym of the head element, for example: schoolboy. The word schoolboy is made up of school (noun) and boy (noun). Schoolboy is a kind of boy (Katamba, 1993:305). In addition, endocentric compound has certain characteristics as follows:

- a. They contain a constituent which function as the syntactic head.
- b. The syntactic properties of the head categories percolate to the entire compound word.
- c. The head is on the right hand (phrasal verb form clear and large class of exception to this generalization)
- d. There is a tendency for the semantic relation between the head and non head to be one modification.

Exocentric compound is a construction of compound that the compound is not hyponym of the head element. This construction often cannot be transparently guessed from its constituent part. Exocentric compound has characteristics as follows:

- a. There is no element in compound that functions as the semantic head of the compound which is modified by the non head element.
- b. The meaning of this construction is opaque. It is impossible to work out what an exocentric compound means from the sum of the meanings of its constituent.

Hence, the construction of sugar daddy is not a type of sugar-coated father but a woman's lover who is deemed to be both overgenerous and much too old for her (O'Grady, 1996:155). Since the meaning of this construction can not be traced back from its constituent, this construction is said to be exocentric. Due to the fact above, exocentric compound tends to be used less frequently than endocentric compound in the creation of new word (Katamba, 1994:320).

#### The components of English Compound Words

The components of English compound words are lexical categories, such as: nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions. Compound in English belong to word-class noun, verb and adjective and made up of at least two constituent bases which are members of the categories noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or preposition (Katamba, 1993:304). Normally, compounds are classified using two criteria:

- (i) whether they have a head
- (ii) if they have a head,
  - a. The word-class of a head
  - b. Whether the head appears at the left or the right of the compound.

Based on its components, English compound word belongs to compound noun, compound adjective, compound verb.

A compound noun may contain a noun followed by another noun, an adjective followed by a noun or a preposition followed by a noun. Compound noun is generated by the rule as follows:

$$N \rightarrow \{ N, A, \text{Prep} \} + N$$

There are some examples as follows:

a. N N	b. A N	c. Prep N
water-lily	hothouse	undergraduate
bookcase	sour-dough	near-
sightedness		
motor-car	greenfly	outskirt
skyline	high-court	underdog
India-rubber	wet suit	oversight
		(Katamba, 1993:

305)

The second type is compound adjective. A compound adjective contains a noun followed by an adjective, an adjective followed by an adjective (derived from the past participle form of verb), and preposition followed by an adjective (derived from the present or past participle form of verb). The structure rule of compound adjective is as follows:

$$A \rightarrow \{ N, A, \text{Prep} \} + \text{Adjective}$$

There are some examples as follows:

a. N A	b. A A	c. Prep A
world-wide	short-lived	overwhelming
user-friendly	hard-hearted	
under-mentioned		

seaworthy                      good-natured                      outspoken  
 foolproof                      long-winded                      near-  
 sighted

(Katamba, 1993: 306)

The last type is compound verb. By far, the commonest type of compound verb in English is the phrasal verb, which contains a verb plus a prepositional or adverbial particles. Compound verb is generated by the rule as follows:

$$V \rightarrow \{ \text{Prep, Verb} \} \text{ or } \{ \text{Verb + Prep} \}$$

There are some examples as follows:

a. P V	b. V P	
undersell	turn off	
outstay	look trough	
overrate	hand out	
offload	kick off	
upstage	put away	

(Katamba, 1993: 307)

## Research Methodology

This research was a descriptive qualitative research since the problems which were analyzed needed a deep observation. The researcher described the linguistic phenomenon happened by using words rather than numbers. It is in line with Mahsun (2007:256) who also notes that the focus of qualitative research is to show the meaning, description of the data in its contexts and often use words rather than numbers. Lofland and Lofland in Moleong (2007:157) states that the data in qualitative research are words or actions and other additional sources. The data of this research were all endocentric compound words in Tolstoy' *God Sees The Truth, But Waits*. After collecting the data, the analysis is then conducted. The first, the researcher classified the endocentric compounds based on their categories whether they were noun, adjective or verb compound. The second, the researcher broke down the constructions into its constituents.

## Result and Discussion

### Result

After analyzing the data, the researcher found 60 endocentric compounds consisted 46 (76.7%) compound verb, 4 (6.7%) compound adjective, and 10 (16.6%) compound noun. The result of endocentric compounds can be found in the table 1.

Tabel 1

Endocentric	Number	Percentage
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Compounds		
Compound Verb	46	76.7
Compound Adjective	4	6.7
Compound Noun	10	16.6
Total	60	100

Taking the elements into account, the researcher found that there were various elements for each construction. The first, compound verb has two main elements, namely: preposition and verb. However the most occurred combination is verb and preposition (46) instead of preposition and verb. From the data, the researcher did not find any combination of preposition-verb. The second, compound adjective has three main elements, those are: noun, adjective and preposition. The combination of noun-adjective (2) has the similar frequency to adjective-adjective (2). The combination of preposition-adjective is not found in this short story. The third, compound noun has four main elements, these are: noun, verb, adjective, and preposition. The most frequently used combination is noun-noun (7), and then, it is followed by adjective-noun (2), and the last is verb-noun (1). The combination of preposition-noun is not found in the data. The elements of each endocentric construction can be traced from table 2.

Tabel 2

Compound Verb		Compound Adjective		Compound Noun	
Elements	Number	Elements	Number	Element s	Numbe r
P V	-	N A	2	N N	7
VP	46	A A	2	V N	1
		P A	-	A N	2
				P N	-

## Discussion

### Compound Verb

Verb is a group of words which has functions as predicate. In other word, verb is a word or phrase that expresses an action or state of being (Thomson, 1986:105). Compound verb is a compound which functions as a verb. It consists of preposition and verb or verb and preposition. From the short story, it is only found a verb-preposition combination. Below is an example taken from the data:

- a. I dreamt you returned from the town, and when you *took off* your cap I saw that your hair was quite grey.

The sentence above has a compound verb *took off*. From the example above, the construction of *took off* consists of verb and preposition. The word *took* is a verb which means remove or use (Manser, 1995:421). It is a past tense verb that is derived from the present word *take*. In this data, *take* took is combined with a preposition, that is *off*. *Off* means down or away from (Ibid.285). The combination of *took* and *off* results a compound

verb since its functions is as a verb in the sentence above. The meaning of *took off* is to remove something away from. This meaning can be traced back from its constituents, in a simple way, it can be said that this construction is classified as an endocentric construction.

Here is another example taken from the data.

- b. Aksionov rested a while in the passage of the inn, then he *stepped out* into the porch and ordering a samovar to be heated, *got out* his guitar and began to play.

The sentence above has two compound verbs: *stepped out* and *got out*. Both of those compound words are verb since their function are as verb. *Stepped out* consists of *stepped* and *out*. *Got out* consists of *got* and *out*. Both of these constructions consist of verb and preposition. *Got* is derived from the word get which means obtain or receive (Ibid. 174). Meanwhile, the word *stepped* comes from the word step which means move the foot as in walking (Ibid.407). Both of them use the preposition *out*. *Out* means away from or not inside a place (Ibid. 291). The meaning of *stepped out* is moving the foot from one place to another and the meaning of *got out* is obtain one thing from one place to another. From the resulted meaning of these compound words, it can be seen that both of these meanings still can be traced back from the constituents. Since the meaning can be traced back from the constituents, these constructions are said to be endocentric.

From the example above, it can be concluded that endocentric construction is a construction in which one of the constituent becomes the head of the construction. The heads of these three constructions (*took off*, *stepped out*, and *got out*) are *took*, *stepped*, and *got*. The lexical category of these three words is verb. It means that the head of a verb compound is a verb.

### **Compound Adjective**

Adjective is a group of words which has grammatical functions as a noun or noun phrase modifier and gives more information about noun or pronoun. It can come before noun or after verb (Swan, 1999:8). It can be said that if there is a construction before noun and the function of this construction is to modify noun, then it can be said that this construction is an adjective. A compound adjective is a construction of compound word which functions is as an adjective. In the short story, the adjective compounds are found. Those adjective compounds consist of noun-adjective and adjective-adjective.

Below is the explanation of adjective compound consisted of noun-adjective as it is found in the short story.

- a. Here is this *blood-stained* knife in your knife in your bag and your face and manner betray you.

The sentence above has a compound adjective, that is *blood stained*. *Blood stained* is a compound adjective since its function in the construction is to

modify knife (noun). This compound adjective consists of blood (noun) and stained (adjective). It is said to be endocentric since the meaning of this construction can be referred back to its constituents. Blood is a noun which means red liquid flowing through the body (Manser, 1995:39). In the mean time, stain means make colored patches or dirty marks on (Ibid. 1995: 403). The meaning of *blood stained* knife is a knife which has many stains that is caused by blood. In a simple way, it can be summarized that the meaning of *blood stained* can be inferred from the constituents. Since the meaning of the construction can be inferred from the meaning of its constituent, this construction is an endocentric construction.

Besides the construction above, other adjective construction is also found in the short story as it can be seen from below sentence:

- a. Aksionov was a handsome, *fair-haired, curly-headed* fellow, full of fun and very fond of singing.

The sentence above has two compound adjectives, *fair-haired and curly-headed*. These are said to be compound adjective because their function is to modify noun (fellow). *Fair-haired* and *curly-headed* are endocentric construction because the meaning of these constructions can be traced back from their constituents. Fair means light in color of skin or hair (Manser, 1995: 148). Hair means fine thread-like growth from the skin (Ibid. 188). Meanwhile curly means something with a spiral shape (Ibid. 103) and head means part of the body that contains nose, brain, eyes, etc (Ibid. 193). Hence the construction fair-haired means hair with light color and curly headed means the shape of the hair is curly. Since the meaning of this construction can be traced back from the constituent, these are said to be endocentric constructions.

### **Compound Noun**

Noun is one of the most important parts of speech. Its arrangement with the verb helps to form the sentence core which is essential to every complete sentence. Noun is a group of word which can function as a subject or an object of a clause (Frank, 1972:6). From this definition it can be concluded that noun can be a subject or an object of a sentence. In this research, some compounds nouns are found. These compound nouns have some constituents with various lexical categories. They have noun-noun combination, verb-noun combination, adjective-noun combination. However, preposition-noun combination is not found. Below is the explanation for each combination.

Noun–noun combination which forms a compound noun can be seen in the sentence as follows:

- a. “Where are you last night? Were you alone, or with a *fellow-merchant?*”

The compound word fellow merchant is a compound noun. It can be seen from the article preceded this construction. This article indicates that the construction is a noun. Here, the function of this construction in this



sentence is as an object. It is said to be endocentric since the meaning can be referred back from its parts. Fellow is a noun which means a companion (Manser, 1995: 153) and merchant is also a noun which means person who buys and sells good in large quantities (Ibid. 261). The meaning of *fellow-merchant* is a companion who also buys and sells goods in large quantities. This meaning is traced back from the elements of the construction. Hence it is an endocentric construction.

The similar thing also occurs in the data below.

- b. He read his book when there was light enough in the prison; and on Sundays in the *prison-church* he read the lesson and sang in choir; for his voice was still good.

The compound word *prison-church* is a compound noun due to the fact that it appears after a determiner. 'The' as a determiner indicates that the construction which comes after it is a noun. In a simple way, it can be said that *prison-church* is a compound noun. Considering the type of this construction, the constituents' meanings must be taken into account. Prison is a noun which means building in which criminals are kept as a punishment (Manser, 1995:328) and church is a building for public Christian worship (Ibid. 68). Hence the meaning of *prison-church* is a building for Christian worship which is located in a prison. Since the meaning of this construction can be referred back from its constituent, this construction belongs to endocentric construction.

The construction of *fellow-merchant* and *prison-church* are examples of compound noun which are made up of noun-noun because *prison*, *church*, *fellow* and *merchant* are all nouns. There are some compound noun which are formed from other category, namely verb-noun combination as it can be seen in the sentence below.

- a. When they wanted to petition the prison authorities about anything, they always made Aksionov their *spokesman*, and when there were quarrels among the prisoners, they came to him to put things right, and to judge the matter.

The construction *spokesman* is a compound noun because there is a possessive pronoun before it. This compound noun consists of *spokes* and *man*. *Spokes* means say things (Manser, 1995:398) and *man* means adult male human being (Ibid. 252). *Spokesman* is an adult male human being who is appointed to say something. The meaning of *spokesman* can be inferred from its constituent, so that it can be concluded that this construction is an endocentric construction. *Spoke* comes from the verb *speak*, so its lexical category is a verb and *man* is a noun. It can be summed up that *spokesman* is an endocentric construction which is made up from a verb and a noun.

There is another endocentric construction which can function as a noun but it has different constituent. It is an endocentric construction which is made up from adjective-noun as it can be seen from the sentence below.

- a. Aksionov tried to pass without looking at him, but Makar sized his hand and told him that he dug a hole under the wall, getting rid of the earth by putting it into his *high-boots*, and emptying it out every day on the road when the prisoners were driven to their work.

High boots is a compound noun because it follows a possessive adjective *his*. The meaning of high boots can be referred back from high and boots. High means reaching far upwards (Manser, 1995: 197) and boots means shoes for the foot and ankle and sometimes also the leg (Ibid. 42). High boot means boots that also cover the leg. From this fact, it can be inferred that high boot is an endocentric construction. This construction consists of high (adjective) and boots (noun). The combination of preposition-noun in compound noun is not found in the short story.

## Summary

From the above explanation, it can be concluded that endocentric construction is more productive than exocentric. It is proven that from the data (60 compounds), researcher finds most of the constructions are endocentric. In this research, it is found that: compound verb is formed from verb-preposition (46 compounds); compound noun is derived from noun-noun (7 compounds), verb-noun (1 compound), adjective-noun (2 compounds); and compound adjective is made up from noun-adjective (2 compounds) and adjective-adjective (2 compounds).

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