3. Findings

In this section of the findings, the current research results are presented as a table consisting of two parts, namely categories and frequencies. The presentation in the table is intended to respond to the research objectives. The researcher found and identified the types of word formation in posts on the *Dictionary.com Threads* account. The study found 54 raw data points classified into types of word formation processes. The data source used the theory of Yule (2010). The following is Table 1, which explains the types and distribution of word formation processes found by the researcher:

Tabel 1.

Categories and Distribution of Word Formation Processes

Types of word formation	Frequency	Percent (%)
Coinage	1	2%
Borrowing	5	9%
Compounding	11	20%
Blending	1	2%
Clipping	1	2%
Backformation	0	0%
Conversion	1	2%
Acronym	2	4%
Derivation	31	57%
Multiple Processes	1	2%
Total	**54**	**100%**

Table 1 shows that the researcher used Yule's (2010) theory to analyze the data mentioned in the results above. The research analyzed ten types of word formation, namely coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, conversion, acronym, derivation, and multiple processes. The types found along with the frequency of appearance are: In the types of coinage, blending, clipping, conversion and multiple processes, the researcher found 1 data in each type, in the borrowing 5 data, compounding 11 data, acronym 2 data, and derivation 31 data. Based on the explanation above, the derivation type is the most dominant because the content commonly uses word formation to form new words and add to their vocabulary.

Furthermore, the researcher did not find data from the backformation type of the ten types of word formation processes in posts during April. Due to the large amount of data collected and to provide a clear picture of the types of word formation, the researcher selected 10 data or quotes to analyze the posts on *Dictionary.com* based on the theory.

Coinage

Coinage is the opening word formation process type. Yule (2010) defines coinage as how words are invented from a new term. Coinage-type data appears relatively rarely in *Dictionary.com* posts in April. The researcher discovered only one coinage, the word *Gallimaufry*, among the posts on *Dictionary.com. Gallimaufry* is a noun, which is its word class. *Gallimaufry* appears in the following post.

Excerpt

Today's [WordOfTheDay](#) *is* **Gallimaufry**. *Learn more about this word:* [dictionary.com/e/wor…](#)

From the post above, the term "*gallimaufry*" is taken as an example of coinage. The term gallimaufry comes from the combination of the French component words "*galimafree*" (meaning mixed combination) and "*mafrer*" (meaning to eat wholeheartedly). From this combination, a new term "*gallimaufry*" is formed, this word refers to an unorganized collection of various objects. According to Yule (2010), coinage is a process of word production where new words are intentionally created by speakers or writers, rather than naturally evolving through regular sound changes or other linguistic processes. Similarly, the term "*gallimaufry*" is intentionally formed by the unique and unexpected combination of preexisting linguistic elements.

Borrowing

The next type of word formation process is Borrowing. Borrowing is one of the most common word formation processes. This process adapts certain words from other languages (Yule, 2010). In the April posts on *Dictionary.com*, the researcher found five examples of Borrowing words. They are *pizza (Italian), logo (Greek), blimp (German), asylum (Latin), and smorgasbord (Swedish)*. However, here, the researcher only chooses one word that will be explained below, namely the word *Pizza*. The following post contains the word, *Pizza*.

Excerpt

*True **pizza** experts will know that another term for the crust is _____. ✐ cornicione ✐ taglio ✐ Neapolitan dictionary.com/games…*

The word *Pizza* is an English word adopted from Italian. The word *Pizza* comes from the word *picea* which means blackened. Due to the cultural interaction and influence of Italian cuisine in English-speaking countries, the dish and its name were borrowed into English from Italian.

Compounding

After discussing the type of borrowing, according to Yule (2010), the following type of word formation is compounding. *Compounding* is a linguistic process that involves combining words to create new ones. According to Yule (2010), compounding involves the combination of two distinct words to create a single form. The researcher discovered 11 data that fall within the category of compounding. An instance of the term discovered is the phrase *Bookworm*. This post includes compounding words.

Excerpt

*Remember the first time you read "colonel" … and later realized how it was pronounced? This list is dedicated to those tricky words that trip up **bookworms**. dictionary.com/e/pro…*

The term "*bookworms*" is a compound word consisting of the free morpheme "*book*" and "*worms*." The term "*book*" suggests a written or printed composition, while "*worm*" generally suggests a small, elongated invertebrate animal. When used as a compound, "*bookworm*" assumes a different significance—an individual enthusiastic about reading or dedicated to reading books. The term "*bookworm*" does not have a literal meaning of a combination of "*book*" and "*worm*" but rather symbolizes a person with a distinct feature. In addition, Yule (2010) states that compounds can be created by combining other parts of speech, such as noun + noun (e.g., *bookworm*), adjective + noun (e.g., *blackboard*), or verb + noun (e.g., *showcase*). The term "*bookworm*" is a compound noun consisting of two nouns.

Blending

According to Yule (2010), blending is the process of word formation after compounding. Blending is combining parts of two words to form a new word. Usually, a blend is formed from the beginning of one word to the end of another Yule (2010). The researcher found one blending word in the posts on *Dictionary.com* in April. The word is the word *Pickleball*. The following are posts that contain the word *Pickleball*:

Excerpt

Pickleball *is sweeping the nation, and we've been dill-igently gathering this glossary of pickleball lingo just for you!* dictionary.com/e/pic…

In "*pickleball*," the word is a combination of the terms "*pickle*" and "*ball*" taken from the word *paddleball*. *Pickleball* is a sport that uses a paddle to smash a hollow ball. It is named after a dog belonging to one of the inventor's family, *Pickle*. The word "*pickleball*" was formed by combining parts of the word's "*pickle*" and "*ball*," combining aspects of both words into their form and meaning. Combining the ideas of the *ball* (the object used in the game) and *pickle* (relating to the dog whose name inspired the name of the sport) resulted in the creation of a new term.

Clipping

Clipping, as defined by Yule (2010), is reducing words into the shorter term. It involves taking a longer word and creating a shorter form by retaining only part of the original word. The process of cutting occurs when a word has more than one syllable, which reduces it to a shorter form, usually beginning in casual speech. Below is a post from *Dictionary.com* that provides instances of word development processes:

Excerpt

You don't have to be a tech **bro** *or a chemist to care about how to distinguish between silicone and silicon. Learn more here!* dictionary.com/e/sil…

"*Bro*" is the word formation process type found in the *Dictionary.com* user. In the instance of "bro," it is a shortened version of "*brother*." By leaving out the last syllable "-*ther*," the entire word "*brother*" has been condensed to the cut form "*bro*." According to Yule (2010), word construction frequently involves clipping, particularly in informal or colloquial English. Speakers typically reduce words they use frequently to make them easier to understand or

convey a more relaxed or informal tone. Using "*bro*" in the given sentence is an informal and colloquial way of referring to a "*brother*" or a male friend. By clipping "*brother*" to "*bro*," the word becomes more concise and informal, fitting the casual tone of the sentence.

Conversion

From the name 'to converse,' a word changes its part of speech without adding or omitting any affixes. The following post contains examples of words that belong to the conversion type.

Excerpt

*Let your vocabulary **blossom** with these exceptional words related to the spring season. When the season of change bursts forth, your words should, too!*

Conversion, often referred to as functional shift or category change, is the process of creating a new word by altering the grammatical category or part of speech of an existing term, but keeping its form same. Put simply, a word undergoes a process of conversion when it changes from one grammatical category to another without the addition of any prefixes or suffixes. The term "*blossom*" exemplifies Conversion as it may serve as both a noun and a verb without any alteration in its form. The term "*blossom*" is a noun that specifically denotes the flower of a plant or tree. For instance: *"The cherry blossoms were at their peak of flowering."* The verb "*blossom*" denotes the act of generating or producing flowers. For instance: *"The trees flourished with blossoms during the spring season."* In this instance, the term "*blossom*" has undergone a conversion from a noun to a verb without any alteration to its morphology.

Acronym

According to Yule (2010), an acronym is a new word formed from the initial letters of a phrase or word sequence. Yule (2010) states, Acronyms are new words made up of the initial letters of the words in a phrase or word sequence. In the type of Acronym, in the *Dictionary.com* post, the researcher found 2 data, namely the words *ASAP* and *AI*. The following post contains the data that the researcher found:

Excerpt 1

*Tortured poets, unite! It can be tough to celebrate poetry without the right terms. We'll break down basic elements, from syllables to stanzas, and you'll be poetry-ready **ASAP**.*

In the case of *ASAP*, it is formed by taking the initial letters of the phrase "*As Soon As Possible*". The resulting Acronym, *ASAP*, is treated as a single word and is widely used in both written and spoken English to convey the meaning of the entire phrase in a shortened form. Therefore, *ASAP* qualifies as an acronym according to Yule's (2010) description of this word formation process, as it is a new word created from the initial letters of a multi-word phrase.

Excerpt 2

*You don't need to turn to ChatGPT to explain all about artificial intelligence. We've got you covered with a list of **AI** terms to up your natural intellect. dictionary.com/e/art…*

It is formed by taking the initial letters of the phrase "*Artificial Intelligence*". The resulting Acronym, *AI*, is treated as a single word and is widely used in both written and spoken English to refer to the field of study and technology concerned with creating intelligent machines and systems. Therefore, according to Yule's (2010) description of this word formation process, *AI* qualifies as an acronym, as it is a new word created from the initial letters of a multi-word phrase.

Derivation

The next type of word formation process is derivation. Derivation is creating a new word by adding an affix (prefix or suffix) to an existing word. Yule (2010) defines *Derivation* as the process of forming a new word by adding an affix to a base form. Derivation has the most data of the ten types of word formation processes found by researchers. Below is a post with examples of derivation:

Excerpt

*What do you call the **minuscule** pollutants that are being found across all the bodies of water on Earth?* 🌐

The researcher found examples of derivation in *Threads* posts totalling 31 words. However, the researcher took one word as an example and explained it. The word taken is the word *Minuscule.* In the case of "*minuscule*", it is derived from the base word "*minus*" (meaning "less" or "smaller") by adding the suffix "*-cule*" (a diminutive suffix indicating "small"). The

resulting word "*minuscule*" means "extremely small" or "tiny." By adding the suffix "-*cule*" to the base word "minus," a new word with a different meaning is derived. This process of affixation (adding a suffix) to create a new word is an example of the word formation process of derivation, as described by Yule. Therefore, using the word "*minuscule*" in the given sentence qualifies as an instance of the word formation process of derivation, where a new word is formed by adding an affix (in this case, a suffix) to an existing base word.

Multiple processes

The last type of word formation process is multiple processes. Multiple Processes refer to combining two or more distinct word formation processes to create a new word. Below is a post with examples of multiple processes:

Excerpt

The word sibling is related to the second element in **gossip**. *You know which sibling to send this to on [NationalSiblingsDay](), don't you?*

The word "*gossip*" in the sentence "The word sibling is related to the second element in *gossip*" is an example of the word formation process called Multiple Processes, as described by George Yule (2010). In the case of "*gossip*", it involves two processes: borrowing and compounding. The first part of the word, "*gos-*," is borrowed from the Old English word "*godsibb*," meaning "a close relative" or "a sponsor at baptism". The second part of the word, "-*sip*," is derived from the Old English word "*sibb*," which is related to the modern word "sibling" (as mentioned in the sentence). This part is then compounded with the borrowed element "*gos-*" to form the word "*gossip*."

Therefore, the word "*gossip*" is not formed through a single process but rather through a combination of borrowing (taking the "*gos-*" part from Old English) and compounding (combining "*gos-*" with "-*sip*" from the Old English word "*sibb*," related to "*sibling*"). This combination of two distinct processes (borrowing and compounding) in the creation of a single new word "*gossip*" is what Yule refers to as Multiple Processes. In simpler terms, "*gossip*" is an example of a Multiple Process because it is formed by combining parts from different sources (borrowing and compounding) rather than through a single-word formation process.