

3. THEORETICAL FOUNDATION

A. MORPHOLOGY

Morphology is the study of word formation, of the structure of words (Packer, 2001). Moreover, the study governs all human language that exists in the world. Basic observations on the study are as follows:

- Some words can be divided into parts and still have meaning, these meaningful parts are called the *morphemes* which also can be defined as the smallest part of a word unit that can no longer be further divided e.g. the word *smartest* can be divided into *smart+est*. These can be considered as the basic units in language meaning
- Words that have meaning by themselves and also cannot be further divided are called *lexical morphemes*, such as, *chair, clock, and lawn*. These morphemes that can stand-alone are also called *free morphemes*. Free morphemes also include *grammatical morphemes*, which specify other relationship between morphemes; words like *in, on, and at* are instances of grammatical morphemes.
- The morphemes that only occur in combination and cannot stand-alone are called *bound morphemes*. Bound morpheme can also be both lexical and grammatical. Lexical bound morphemes can only occur in combination; as in *include, exclude, preclude*. Grammatical bound morpheme also can be occurred only in combination because they are parts of the word, such as in plural form of *chairs, books, and cats*.
- Affixes can be defined as morphemes that do not have a meaning by themselves. Affixes can be further divided into *inflectional affixes* and *derivational affixes*.
- Inflectional affixes can be understood as a change in the form of a word to express a grammatical function such as tense, mood, person, number, case, and gender. For example, as (Packer, 2001) stated:

English has only eight inflectional affixes:

{PLU} = plural Noun *-s* as in the word *boys*

{POSS} = possessive Noun -'s as in the word *boy's*

{COMP} = comparative Adj -er as in the word *older*

{SUP} = superlative Adj -est as in the word *oldest*

{PRES} = present Verb -s as in the word *walks*

{PAST} past Verb -ed as in the word *walked*

{PAST PART} = past participle Verb -en as in the word *driven*

{PRES PART} = present participle Verb -ing as in the word *driving*

Furthermore, these basic observations in morphology become the foundation of theory in this paper.

B. SEMANTICS

In Oxford Dictionary of English, semantics can be defined as the branch of linguistics and logic concern with meaning. The two main areas are logical semantics, concerned with matters such as, sense and reference and presupposition and implication and lexical semantics, concerned with the analysis of word meaning and the relation between them. There are four semantic properties offered by (Kajitani, 2005), they are: Augmentation (increase of quantity), Diminution (decrease of quantity), Attenuation (decrease of degree), and Intensification (increase of degree).