ABSTRACT

The objectives of this thesis, which is entitled "A study of The Affixes Found in a Scientific Text", are to fulfill the requirements for the Master of Arts degree in Applied Linguistics, and also to contribute to the knowledge of affixes and affixation for those who wish to improve their knowledge in this area.

The data presented has been collected from every page of a scientific text - "Biology" by Claude A. Villee. The presentation is done in two ways: for the affixes with high frequency of occurance, 5 examples are shown, whereas those with less frequency (less than 5 times), all of the examples collectable are presented.

Affixation (prefixation and suffixation) is the most effective process in the formation of new words. Affixation is the addition of a prefix or a suffix to a base which is either a free or a bound morpheme.

On the basis of the their popularity, the affixes can be divided into "dead" and "living" affixes.

Prefixes and suffixes are classified into three major categories: Negative, Non-negative, and Miscellaneous. The Non-negative type has as its sub-categories the Prefixes of Attitude, Pejorative Prefixes, Comparison and Contrast Prefixes, Reversative Prefixes, Locative Prefixes, Prefixes of Sequence, and Prefixes of Measurement (which comprise the Number Prefixes and the Prefixes of Degree and Size).

The Miscellaneous type includes the Conversion, Neo-classical, and Residue Prefixes.

Suffixes are divided into four main categories: Nominal (which have as their sub-categories the Nominal Suffixes denoting Action, Agent, and Diminutives), Adjectival, Verbal, and Adverbial Suffixes.

Most of the affixes are under three distinctive groups: General (Productive), Specific, and Non-productive. There are two exceptions, i.e., the Verbal suffixes belong to the General and Non-productive types, and the Adverbial suffixes belong to the General type only.

Additional comments and a classification chart are provided for a better perception of affixes and affixation. Appendices are also attached for reference purposes.

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