AN ANALYSIS ON AFFIXAL NEGATION IN ENGLISH

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by

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ENGLISH EDUCATION PROGRAM

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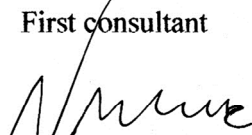**UNIVERSITY OF MATARAM**

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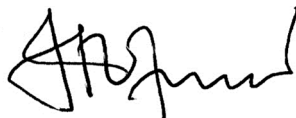**(Ahmad Zamzam, S.pd, M.Hum)**
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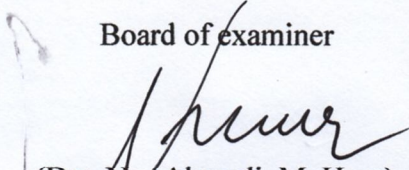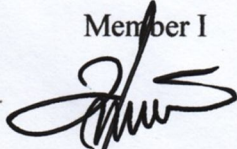Has been approved in Mataram on...2ⁿᵈ sep:..2014.

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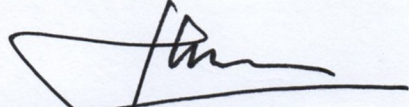NIP. 196612311998021002

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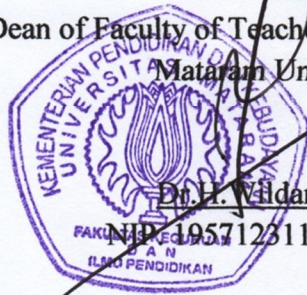(Ahmad Zamzam, S.Pd,M.Hum)
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An Analysis on Affixal Negation in English
By Sri Wahyuni

ABSTRACT

      "An Analysis on Affixal Negation in English" is a research that describes about affixal negation markers which are available in sentential constructions. Affixal Negation markers are able to occur in word categories. The method of this research includes in descriptive qualitative research that the researchers tries to finding, analyzing and concluding the data. In applying the data into analysis, the present researcher tends to use NUD*IST (*Non Numerical Unstructures Data Indexing Searching and Theory Building*) method.

      This research found that affixal negation markers are mostly negative prefix and negative suffix. Negative prefix is a bound morpheme, which is added to the beginning of a word in order to form complex word. There are sixteen markers of negative prefixes in English, they are; *a-, ab-, under-, anti-, de- dis-, dys-, ex-, il-, im-, in-, ir-, mal-, mis-, non-, and un-*. And negative suffix markers in English is *-less*, and *-ish*.

In the first chapter (Introduction); This chapter present the discussion about (1) background of the study; (2) focus of the study; (3) research question; (4) objective of the study; and (5) significanc of the study. In the first part of introduction, The smallest meaning of morphology is called morpheme. Further, Carstairs (2002) states that morpheme is divided into two parts, those are free morphemes and bound morphemes. Free morpheme is usually called inflection and bound morpheme is known as affixes.

The reasons why the speakers of language and linguists alter the form of words are; to look for the different meaning of words and to accommodate the pattern of syntax. Such as; *happy* will be *unhappy*. She is happy now *versus* she is unhappy now. Someone who is happy has felling of pleasure, usually because something nice has happened or because they feel satisfied with their life. Contrast with it, unhappy is the antonym of happy or in morphological field, it is called negation. According to Murcia and Freemen (1999) negation marker in English is divided into three parts, such as; affixal negation, no negation and not negation. Affixal negation is occurred by adding prefix and suffix to the stem or root of words.

When the researcher takes morphology study in fourth semester, the lecturer taught about negation. In that session, the researcher doesn't understand more about negation. The lecturer taught negation generally without clarified which one is no negation, not negation and afffix negation. He gave the students task about negation and when the researcher has been finding in the faculty library, no one students take their thesis about negation. Even, in the university library the researcher look for the

books about negation but no one books discuss about negation. Then, the researcher tries to find in the internet. She found there are many negation markers but its not specific.

There are many affixal negation markers which are negates the positive statement. It means the positive statement will be negative or contrast meaning. Most of the readers, even the present researcher do not know more when and where negation markers are used, especially in affixal negation markers. As the student which takes English program, the researcher wants to add the depth sense about affixal negation marker in English. From this research, the researcher expects this writing beneficial for development of linguistic knowledge especially to the readers who are interested in morphological field, useful for language society, and the most important one is useful for the present researcher itself.

From the phenomena above;

1. Focus of the Study

   This research be focused on affixal negation marker in English in sentential constructions.

2. Research Question

   What affixal negation markers are available in sentential constructions?

3. Objective of the Study

   To describe the affixal negation markers that are available in sentential constructions.

4. Significanc of the Study

a. The research results have contribution towards the development of linguistic knowledge primary for morphological field.

b. The result of this research is expected to useful for language society especially for who are intrested in morphological study.

In the second chapter (review of related literature); in this chapter discuss about (1) Affixation; (2) negation affixes; (3) previous relevant study; and (3) theoretical framework.

Three types of negation markers in English" (Murcia and Freemen 1999). Namely, Affix negation, No negation, and Not negation. Markers of affixal negation are include *a-, dis-, dys-, in-, im-, il-, ir-, non-, de-, anti-, ex-, un-,- ish* and *-less*. Then, markers of affixal negation are divided into three categories. First categories is prefix, which covering *a-, dis-, dys-, in-, im-, il-, ir-, non-, ex-, anti-, de-,* and *un-*. The second category is suffix, which covering *–less* and *-ish* and the last one is infix but infix is not superior to be discussed.

In the previous relevant study, for several years ago, negation has been one of the most extensively discussed topics in generative grammar. For example, Klima's 1964 paper about "negation in English". More recently, negation has been discussed extensively in a number of papers, such as Lasnik's 1972 paper about "analysis of negation in English", Jespersen's 2012 paper about "negation in English and other languages".

Lasnik's paper, he discussed about one of negation marker, that is *not.* He intended to examine the distribution of the lexical item of *not* and transformations involved in sentences containing *not*. In his first theory which he called Determiner Theory, *not* is generative on NP (noun phrase), adverbials, and transformationally relocated into auxiliary.

He considers phrases containing *not* and *a quantifier*, for example not many and not often. Here are the following pair of the sentences;

1. Not many of the arrows didn't hit the target.

2. Not often do I not do my homework.

In the first sentence, not many and auxiliary + not are required because acceptable and grammatically, rather than second sentence. Not often + not after the subject I are not acceptable because ungrammatical.

Further, he states that there are grammatical sentences containing both sentence initial and auxiliary occurrences of *not.* e.g. not many of the arrows didn't hit the target. It shows that multiple *not* in one sentence is acceptable, but notices that before *not* there is an auxiliary.

Jespersen, in his paper, sentences containing *not* a similar compromise is achieved by the same means, *not* retaining its place after the verb which indicates tense, number and person, and yet being placed before the really important verb. Here are some examples;

1. I do not say

2. I will not say

3. I can not say

4. I have not said.

In this position, he states that *not* cannot keep up strongly, stressed pronunciation, through its weakening to arrive at the colloquial. Moreover, Lasnik also discussed about affixal negation. He states that negation may be expressed either

by some modification of the words, generally a prefix. Although he discussed about prefix but he did not discuss the whole parts of prefix. He only analyses some prefixs, those are *never, un, in, dis* and *non.*

In the third chapter (Research methodology); generally, data analysis in this study is conducted by reducing the data, combining the data, describing the data and verifying the data (Moleong, 2005:288). This study includes in descriptive qualitative research. The aim of this method is to describe affixal negation marker in English. The method be used by the researcher to collect and obtain the data is reading journals, papers and books about negation. It includes library research or documentation.

Documentation defined in a technique to obtain data through collecting all of documents and note them systematically. This document found through reading journals, papers and books that have relation with research problem, it is negation. The instrument in qualitative research is the researcher itself. The researcher in qualitative research is people who open the key, research, and explore all space accurately. "The researcher in qualitative research is key instrument" (Satori and Komariah 2012: 61). It means that the researcher as especial data collector.

In this study, the writer uses instrument of research because the writer directly involved in this research. She collects, analyses and concludes the data in this research by find out in the internet, and classifies which one is word/phrase that include in negation.

Generally, data analysis in this study is conducted by reducing the data, combining the data, describing the data and verifying the data (Moleong, 2005:288). This study uses descriptive method. The aim of this method is to describe affixal negation marker in English, and the writer tries to analyze form of negation. In applying the data into analysis, the writer tends to use NUD*IST (*Non Numerical Unstructures Data Indexing Searching and Theory Building*) method.

This method conducts some steps:

1. Searching the data/document by using internet.

2. Collecting/save the data in computer.

3. Identifying word/phrases of negation.
4. And displaying the data.
5. Explaining

   In the chapter four (findings), based on observation on affixal negation marker in English, it is found that affixal negation markers are mostly negative prefix and negative suffix.

Prefix negation markers consists of sixteen markers; they are; *a-, ab-, under-, anti-, de- dis-, dys-, ex-, il-, im-, in-, ir-, mal-, mis-, non-, and un-.*

Those prefixes negation markers have different functions. *a-* is mostly used in formal or technical words to indicate lacking in or lack of, e.g. apolitical, asymmetrical. *ab-* is added to the beginning of word to form opposite meaning which indicate word originally, e.g abuse, abnormal. *under-* is used to form words that express the idea that there is not enough of something. For example if people are

underfed, they are not getting enough food. *anti-* is used to form adjectives and nouns that describe things that are intended to destroy something harmful or to prevent something from happening, e.g. antitrust, antiglare. *de-* is used to add the meaning 'opposite', 'remove', or 'reduce' to noun or verb, e.g. demagnetize, decode. *dis-* is used with verb, adjective and noun to form opposites, e.g. dislike, disagree, disadvantage. *dys-* is used with nouns and adjectives to mean bad or difficult. *ex-* is added to nouns to show that someone or something is no longer the thing referred to by that noun. For example, a woman's ex-husband is no longer her husband. *il-* is used to form the meaning of opposite before word/base begin with *l,* e.g. illegal, illegible . *im-* is used to form opposites before base initialized by *b, m, p*. *in* is used to form opposite form. *in-* is added to some words to form words with the opposite meaning. For example, something that is incorrect is not correct. *ir-* is used to form opposites before the letter *r,* e.g irresponsible, irregular. *mal-* is added to words in order to form new words which describe things that are bad or unpleasant, or that are unsuccessful or imperfect, e.g malfunction, malformed. *mis-* is added to the beginning of a verb or word formed from a verb, to show that the action referred to by the verb has been done wrongly or badly, e.g misheard, misadventure. *non/non-* are used as negative prefixes added to nouns, adjectives and adverbs to indicate an absence of something, e.g non-addictive, nonconformist. *un-* is used to add adjectives and indicates the opposite quality from the positive word, e.g unreadable, unrealistic.

From the explanation above, there are three negation markers (il-, im-, ir-) have rules. il- pair with the initial letter "l", im- pair with the initial letter b, m, and p,

and ir- pair with the initial letter "r". This indicates as homorganic (same place of articulation), for example; the sounds /p/, /m/ are produced with the two lips (bilabial), although one is a stop and the other is nasal.

All negation markers (except im-, ir- and il-) are doesn't has rule. They are called as lexical and used in certain word category whether nouns, verb, adjective or adverb.

Suffix negation markers in English is -less, and -ish. The suffix is added to the end of a word. -less is added to nouns in order to form adjectives that indicate that someone or something does not have the thing that the noun refers to. For example; his effort is useless. –ish is added to nouns, adjective to form adjectives which indicate that someone or something is like a particular kind of person or thing or to show something has a quality to a small extent. For example, `childish' means like a child, or typical of a child, and largish means not very large.

Table 4.1 negative prefix markers in English

No	Prefix markers	Basic functions	example
1	a-	Added to the beginning some adjectives in order to form adjectives	apolitical, asymmetry
2	ab-	Added to the beginning of word to form opposite meaning which indicate word originally.	abnormal, abuse
3	ex-	added to nouns to show that someone or	exlove, ex-

		something is no longer the thing referred to by that noun.	husband
4	anti-	used to form adjectives and nouns that describe things that are intended to destroy something harmful or to prevent something from happening.	antitrust, antiglare
5	de-	to add the meaning 'opposite', 'remove', or 'reduce' to noun or verb.	demagnetize, decode
6	dis-	used with verb, adjective and noun to form opposites.	dislike, disagree, disadvantage
7	dys-	used with nouns and adjectives to mean bad or difficult.	dysfunction
8	il-	used to form the meaning of opposite before word/base begin with *l*.	illegal, illegible
9	im-	used to form opposites before base initialized by *b, m, p*. *in* is used to form opposite form.	impossible, immaterial
10	in-	added to some words to form words with the opposite meaning.	Inability, incorrect
11	ir-	used to form opposites before the letter *r*.	Irregular,

			irresponsible
12	mal-	added to words in order to form new words which describe things that are bad or unpleasant, or that are unsuccessful or imperfect.	malfunction, malformed
13	mis-	added to the beginning of a verb or word formed from a verb, to show that the action referred to by the verb has been done wrongly or badly.	misheard, misadventure
14	non-	used as negative prefixes added to nouns, adjectives and adverbs to indicate an absence of something.	non-addictive, nonconformist
15	un-	used to add adjectives and indicates the opposite quality from the positive word.	unclearly, unfairness, unrealistic
16	under-	used to form words that express the idea that there is not enough of something.	underfed, underestimate

Table 4.2 negative suffix markers in English

	Negative suffix	Basic function	example
1	-less	added to nouns in order to form adjectives	Useless,

		that indicate that someone or something does not have the thing that the noun refers to.	hopeless, meaningless, friendless
2	-ish	added to nouns in order to form adjectives that indicate that someone or something does not have the thing that the noun refers to.	Childish, largish

In chapter five (discussions), this chapter presents the discussions about the markers of affixal negation markers. In this part, to make it easier for the readers especially for the writer, she describes the data by using trees structure.
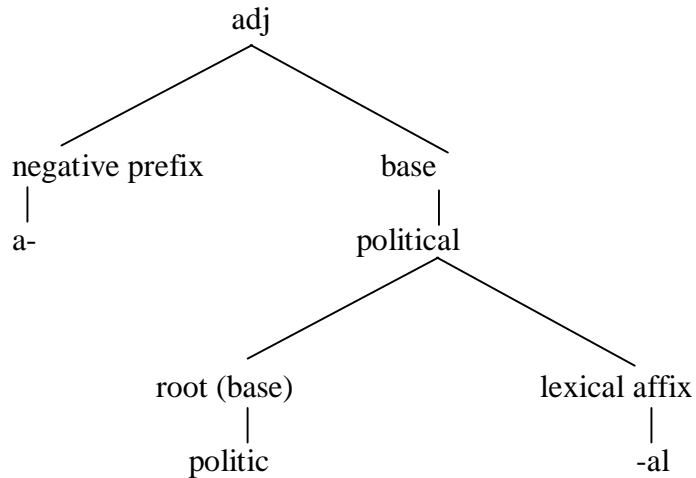
1. Negative Prefix

a-

a-   is added to the beginning of some adjectives in order to form adjective that describe someone or something that does not has the feature or quality indicated by the original word. In this particular, the writer only gives one data.

For example;

- I am a completely **apolitical** man (Collins, 2006).

```
                        adj
                       /    \
         negative prefix      base
              |                 |
              a-             political
                            /         \
                     root (base)      lexical affix
                          |                 |
                       politic             -al
```

Apolitical is complex word. It is consist of prefix negation *a-*, and political. *Political* is not root, it is base. So, the root is *politic* and *–al* is lexical affix.

In the next chapter (conclusion and suggestion); after the researcher analysis the whole data in chapter II, it is supported by data in findings (chapter IV) and data in discussions (chapter V), she can take some conclusions. These conclusions are the answer of research question in chapter I.

Affixal negation markers consist of;

a. Prefix affixal negation markers; a-, ab-, anti-, under-, il-, im-, ir-, in-, de-, dis-, dys-, ex-, mal-, mis-, non-, and un-.

b. Suffix affixal negation markers; -less, and -ish.

From data of findings (chapter IV), affixal negation markers in English are eight ten. Average on affixal negation markers occur in positive sentences, the pattern

of that sentence also the meaning are negative when attached by affixal negation marker whether it is prefix negation markers or suffix negation markers.

This research is written in not long time, about four months so that this research still lack of perfect. I am realize that this research is far from perfectness, so that the researcher hopes that there is suggestion or additional to this research.