Word Formation Process on Kaskus

Shalliny Florencia
13020112140048
Departemen Sastra Inggris Fakultas Ilmu Budaya
Universitas Diponegoro

ABSTRACT
This research shows that there are word formation processes on Kaskus for communications. The background of the research is that there are a lot of people who are confused when they visit Kaskus for the first time because of the new words formed by the kaskusers. The purpose of this research is to describe the word formation processes that happen on Kaskus, so that the non-kaskusers who visit Kaskus will have knowledge about the words the kaskusers talk about. The theoretical framework used in this research concerns word formation process as is proposed by some experts like O’Grady (1996), Katamba (1993), and Hatch and Brown (1995). This research is descriptive research and it uses qualitative approach. The data in this research are posts in 2015 and taken directly from Kaskus using documentation, observation and interview method. The writer also uses note-taking and SimakBebasLibatCakap(SBLC) technique to support the methods used in the research. The result of the research shows that there are some word formation processes used on Kaskus by kaskusers, such as reduplication, back formation, clipping, blending, compounding, derivation, borrowing, coinage, initialization, and conversion, and initialization process is quite productive among other processes found on Kaskus.

Keywords: Morphology, Word Formation Process, Kaskus, and Kaskusers

1. Introduction

Kaskus is the largest Indonesian online community forum, founded by Indonesian students Andrew Darwis, Ronald Stephanus, Ken Dean Lawadinata and Budi Sudarsonoin 1999 in Seattle, Washington. It was originally intended as an
informal forum for Indonesian students abroad, until one of the founder, Andrew Darwis, decided to expand the business in 2011.

*Kaskus* have their own language differ from that used in ordinary life. In this research I discuss the new language formed in *Kaskus* by using word formation process aspects, and I explain which of word formation process is mostly used on *Kaskus*.

### 2. Theoretical Framework

According to O’Grady and Guzman (1996) there are fourteen (14) word formation processes that may occur in a sentence, which are compounding, borrowing, coinage, initialization, blending, clipping, reduplication, back formation, conversion, derivation, inflection, onomatopoeia, acronyms, and suppletion. O’Grady and Guzman (1996) states that compounding is the combination of lexical categories.

Borrowing is one of the word formation processes. It is all language-borrowed word from other language (Hatch and Brown, 1995). The forms of borrowed words are usually adapted to the phonology of the borrowing language. It is easy to see in the mutation of English words borrowed by other languages, for examples: *Japaneseterebi*<Eng *television*. (Allan, 1986).

The next process is coinage. Hatch and Brown (1995) defines coinage as a process when a new word is needed but there are no appropriate borrowed word and

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1 Further explanation is of onomatopoeia, acronyms, and suppletion are not provided, since the processes are not discovered in this research.
native word to express it, for example, brand names (the first name product) sometimes become so widely used that they are accepted as generic terms and generalized to other product name, e.g. Kleenex for facial tissue.

One of the word formation processes is called initialization. Initialization is a process by reducing its letter on the pronounced word, for example LA for Los Angeles, US for United States (Hatch and Brown, 1995).

Blending is the next word formation process. Blends are two words in which their non-morphemic components are mixed into one (O’Grady and Guzman, 1996). It is taking only the first syllable of one word and joining it to the end of the other word (Hatch and Brown, 1995). E.g: brunch from breakfast and lunch. (O’Grady and Guzman, 1996).

The other process of word formation is clipping. Clipping is a process where a polysyllabic word eliminates its one or more syllable, so that it becomes shorter, for example prof for professor (O’Grady and Guzman, 1996).

Reduplication is also a process of word formation. Reduplication duplicates all or part of the base to which it applies to mark a grammatical or semantic contrast. Furthermore, there are two kinds of this kind word formation process, full reduplication and partial one. Full reduplication is the repetition of the entire word while partial reduplication copies only part of the word.

The next process is called back formation. Back Formation is a process of forming a new word by removing a real or supposed affix from another word.
The other process is conversion. “Conversion is a process that assigns an already existing word to a new syntactic category. Even though it does not add an affix, conversion resembles derivation because of the change in category and the meaning that it brings about. For the reason, it is sometimes called zero derivation” (O’Grady and Guzman, 1997).

O’Grady and Guzman (1996) state that a process when a word is created where its meaning and/or its category is different from its base by adding an affix is called derivation. Whereas, Hatch and Brown (1995) say that derivation morpheme makes explicit the word class assignment of the word to make it into an adjective, an adverb, or another part of speech.

Inflection is a word formation by adding affixes so that it creates a new form without changing the word class or meaning. The occurrence of inflections is to indicate grammatical properties such as tense, number, and degree. (Delahunty and Garfey, 2010).

3. Research Method

In this paper, I use descriptive qualitative method in presenting and analyzing the data. Data in this research is Kaskus’s posts in 2015. In the data completion, I use documentation, observation, and interview method. According to Arikunto (1998), documentation method is used to collect data by studying books, transcriptions,
advertisements, newspapers, magazines, etc. I use documentation method because the data in this research collected from the Kaskus’s posts. I use interview method because I try to interview some Kaskus users who have been using Kaskus for years to get informations about new words that formed on Kaskus. I analyze the data collected by using observation method. Observation method is a method of collecting data by analyzing the research object systematically (Arikunto, 1998). I also use the note taking technique, because I write down the informations from the interviewees about the word formation processes found on Kaskus. The population of this research is 52 threads on Kaskus which were posted in 2015. I use purposive sampling technique to choose 37 suspected words that contain elements of word formation processes. Since I only take part as an observer and not taking part as a source of data in this research, I use Simak Bebas Libat Cakap (SBLC) acknowledge by Arikunto (1998).

4. Word Formation Process on Kaskus
I find out that initialization process is the most common used on Kaskus. I find 12 words that contain initialization process from 37 suspicious words taken as samples from Kaskus. The words HT and TS are examples from initialization process found on Kaskus. HT stands for Hot Thread. Hot thread on Kaskus means hot post or post which has been read by a lot of people and has a good rating. TS, which stands for Thread Starter, is formed by using initialization process too. Thread Starter on Kaskus is a topic maker or a person who makes the topic and lets other kaskusers discuss it together.

There are borrowed words found on Kaskus, for example are juragan, which is borrowed from javanese language, inpoh and pejwan which are borrowed from English. Pejwan is a word borrowed from English page one or first page. A person who posts a comment on the first page of the thread made by the thread starter is called pejwan, or can be considered as one of the first readers of the thread. Inpoh is a
borrowed word from English *info*, when *info* is a word formed by using clipping process, derived from the word *information*. *Juragan* is also a borrowed word, but different from the other borrowed words from English found on *Kaskus*, *juragan* is borrowed from Javanese. In Javanese term, *juragan* is hirelings designation toward the employer, but on *Kaskus*, *juragan* means the local name of the fellow members of *Kaskus* or usually called as *Kaskusers*.

I find reduplication and clipping processes at once on *Kaskus*, those are *mimin* and *momod*. *Mimin* is a person who has rights to manage Kaskus’ system and all *kaskusers’* activities on *Kaskus*, and it represents the word ‘administrator’. *Momod* is a person who has rights on controlling every thread on every sub-topic on *Kaskus*. It represents the word ‘moderator’.

\[\text{administrator} \rightarrow \text{ministrator} \rightarrow \text{min} \rightarrow \text{mimin} \]
\[\text{moderator} \rightarrow \text{mod} \rightarrow \text{momod} \]

The terms *mimin* and *momod* are at first formed by removing some syllables from their original word, then duplicate the part of its base.

Different from the terms *mimin* and *momod*, there are also terms *pertamax* and *repsol*, which are new words formed by using words (brand names) that already existed stand as the references. The term *pertamax* stands for the first comment in a particular thread or post posted by *kaskusers*. Originally, the word *pertamax* stands for a kind of fuel.
Repsol is also a kind of fuel (N) which the meaning has been changed into ‘repost’ (V) on Kaskus. On Kaskus, the term repsol is influenced by the English term ‘repost’. The word class of repsol here is also changed from noun to verb, which means repsol is a new word formed by using conversion process.

I find two (2) coinage processes on Kaskus, which also means that coinage is one of the least processes on Kaskus, these are sotosop and mikocok. Both terms are not only using coinage process, but are also using compounding process.

\[ soto + sop \rightarrow sotosop \rightarrow Photoshop \]

\[ mi + kocok \rightarrow mikocok \rightarrow Microsoft \]

Sotosop is a combination of nouns in Bahasa Indonesia soto and sop, and on Kaskus it represents the term Photoshop, which is a software to edit photos, while the term mikocok is a combination of noun and verb in Bahasa Indonesia mi (noodle) and kocok (stir), and in Indonesia, mikocok is a kind of traditional foods, but on Kaskus it represents the term Microsoft, which is the name of a technology company.

Compounding process on Kaskus also appears on the some other words. The example of the compounding process found on Kaskus is the term donlot. Donlot stands for Download. The term download is a word by combining the words

\[ \text{pertama} + -x \rightarrow \text{pertamax} \]

\(^{2}\)Morphological process happens but is not described in this research, since this research only discuss the word formation process in morphological level.
*down* and *load* in English to create a verb compound. There is a change in the writing of word but has a meaning that does not change. It supposed to be *donlod* with ‘D’ letter at the end of the word, but on *Kaskus* it ends with ‘T’ at the end of the word which becomes *donlot*.

\[
\text{down + load} \rightarrow \text{download} < \text{donlod} - \text{donlot}
\]

\[
\text{book + mark} \rightarrow \text{bookmark} < \text{bokmak} - \text{bukmak}
\]

Writing difference of compounding process found on *Kaskus* is also found in a term *bukmak*, which stands for English *bookmark*, where *bukmak* on *Kaskus* uses the letter ‘U’ to represent the word ‘book’. *Donlot* and *bukmak* are also formed by using borrowing process, because the original words are from English (download, bookmark).

According to the sample analyzed by me, blending process is one of the least processes found on *Kaskus*. There is a term *copas* on *Kaskus* which stands for *Copy and Paste*.

\[
\text{copy + paste} \rightarrow \text{copas}
\]

The term *copas* is quite common to be found not only on *Kaskus* but in Indonesia this term is also used everywhere on the internet. The next of least process found on *Kaskus* is derivational process and back formation process. I find that there is a word *founder* on *Kaskus*. The term *founder* on *Kaskus* means the person who build a group.
I want to discuss the term *founder* more deeply since there are 2 (two) different perspectives, from English and from Bahasa Indonesia. I see from English perspective as there is an affix ‘-er’ added to the word. Without the affix ‘-er’ added to the word, the word *founder* (N) will only be *found* (V) without –’er- which means the meaning and the word class also change from noun to verb.

\[\text{found} \ (V) + \text{-er} \rightarrow \text{founder} \ (N)\]

The process of removing a particular affix is called back formation process and the process of adding an affix in result of changing the word class and the meaning called derivational process, so the word *founder* on *Kaskus* is going through 2 (two) processes, those are derivational process and back formation process. However, there is a difference from Indonesian perspective, from Indonesia perspective, the word *founder* is a new word formed by using borrowing process. The reason is because *Kaskus* is a community in Indonesia, and the speakers are also speaking in terms of Bahasa Indonesia. Perspective differences also happen in the term *copas*, which makes *copas* is formed by using 2 (two) different processes at once, borrowing and blending.

**5. Conclusion**

After analyzing the data I can conclude that there are some word formation processes used by *Kaskusers* on *Kaskus* to make communications with each other become so much easier. Word formation processes that I can find are initialization,
conversion, coinage, blending, back formation, derivation, clipping, compounding, and borrowing from English and Javanese. Based on the findings, I can also conclude that the initialization process is the most common process that used on Kaskus by kaskusers among other word formation processes found. There are not much of derivation and back formation, found based on the samples gathered by me. Some words have more than one process, for example the term sotosop which is going through coinage and compounding process, and the term founder which is going through derivational process and back formation for one condition.

In brief, the use of Kaskus is still happening and continuing over time, since Kaskus is a very useful online forum in Indonesia that can serve a lot of useful information and news, so new words on Kaskus still have a chance to change over time too. It is also a place where people can do online shopping and selling not only between kaskusers but also between people who are not active on kaskus or a new comer, so it is necessary for people to concern about words that is used on Kaskus to communicate. Hopefully, this study will be useful in the future for further understandings in the scope of linguistics study, especially in Morphology.
REFERENCES


