UNVEILING LINGUISTIC PATTERNS: A MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF COMPOUND WORDS IN "THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER" BY STEPHEN CHBOSKY

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Abstract

English compound words have a significant impact on the language's structure and lexicon. This research paper focuses on conducting a morphological analysis of compound words in the novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky. The methodology includes identifying compound words in the text, analyzing their components, categorizing them based on their types, and exploring the semantic relationships between the constituent parts. A qualitative analysis was conducted to interpret the role of compound words in enhancing the narrative and conveying subtle nuances of meaning. This study identified a total of 100 compound words categorized into three types: 91 compound nouns, 4 compound verbs, and 5 compound adjectives. These compounds exhibit specific patterns of lexical categories. Specifically, there are 72 words comprising noun + noun (NN), 2 words comprising adjective + adjective (AA), 5 words comprising verb + noun (VN), 8 words comprising preposition + noun (PN), 1 word comprising preposition + verb (PV), 2 word comprising noun + adjective (NA), 7 words comprising adjective + noun (AN), and 3 words comprising noun + verb (NV). Out of these, 88 compounds have heads, while 12 compounds are headless. The analysis revealed that Chbosky effectively condenses intricate ideas into concise and impactful expressions by combining words to form compound structures and confirmed the significance of compound words in enhancing literary pieces by conveying nuanced meanings and emotional depth through the consolidation of multiple ideas into a single, evocative word that resonates with readers.

Keywords: Morphology, Compound Word, Type and Structure, Production process, Semantics relationship

INTRODUCTION

English, as a language, is constantly evolving over time as a result of diverse linguistic influences, with a rich and complex vocabulary that continues to develop over time. The process of creating new words in English is a testament to the dynamic nature of the language, allowing for the formation of everyday language to specialized technical terminology that meets changing communication needs. This process has also demonstrated the English language's adaptability and versatility.In English, a new vocabulary can be created by combining two or more roots or smaller categories of phrasal words that function as words syntactically (McCarthy, 2002) to create another word (Delahunty, G. P., & Garvey, J. J., 2010). It is the process of deriving a new word by composing two or more lexical categories (O'Grady, W. & Archibald, J., 2016), where one root is the head of the compound while the other root is the modifier (Garvey, 2010). Apart from forming new words, this process also forms meanings that are sometimes very different from the original root.

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These compound words possess unique meanings distinct from their individual components. Morphology, branch of linguistics focusing on word structure and formation (Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N., 2014; Booji, 2012), sheds light on how words are built (Aronoff, M., & Fudeman, K., 2022; Lieber, R., 2021) and their contribution to the overall text meaning by looking at it on the basis of its internal structure (Booij, G., 2012). This comprehension of word formation has influenced various fields, including literature. Within literature, analyzing morphological processes presents a valuable opportunity to explore the subtle nuances of language usage and reveal deeper layers of meaning in narrative structures.Stephen Chbosky's seminal novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" stands as a poignant exploration of adolescence, identity, and the complexities of growing up. The novel was first published in the USA by MTV Books/Pocket Books, 1999 by Simon & Schuster Inc. Set against the backdrop of high school life, the novel follows the journey of Charlie, a passive teenager who shares his story through letters that are more intimate than a diary, for an anonymous friend as he navigates the challenges of high school, friendship, love, and self-discovery. While much attention has been rightfully devoted to the thematic richness and emotional resonance of Chbosky's narrative, the linguistic dimensions, particularly the morphology of compound words, remain an understudied aspect deserving of scholarly inquiry.

The formation of compound words in English is not just a phenomenon regarding language structure but also semantics (Lieber, R., 2004) to understand the layers of meaning depicted by their use. Even though compound words are formed by several words, the words formed often have meanings that go beyond the literal interpretation of their respective components (Lieber, R., & Stekauer, P. (Eds.)., 2011). For example, although "whiteboard" may seem to indicate a black board, the definition actually refers to a surface for writing or drawing with chalk or marker. In the context of "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," an examination of compound words presents an interesting opportunity to uncover the author's stylistic choices, thematic motifs, and underlying linguistic structures that shape the narrative landscape.

The difference between phrase and compounding
According to Delahunty and Garvey (2010), there are four ways to distinguish between phrases and compound words. Firstly, the stress pattern in a compound word is usually different from that of a phrase made up of the same words. In compound words, the stress falls on the first word, whereas in phrases, it is on the last word (Carstairs-McCarthy, A., 2017). Stress placement in English is variable and conveys different meanings, making stress patterns significant (Finegan, E., 2015). Secondly, the meaning of a compound word may differ from the meaning of the phrase. A compound word typically carries a meaning that is somewhat unique or unexpected (Carstairs-McCarthy, A., 2017) and dictionary entries for compounds are separate from phrases, unless the meaning of the phrase is idiomatic. Thirdly, the order of constituent words in a compound can be different from that of the phrase. Finally, modification of the first element is not allowed in compounding, whereas in phrases, modifiers can be modified. For example, the word 'black bird' is a compound, and cannot be modified by adding 'really', while in a phrase, the word 'really' would be acceptable.

Types of compound words
In addition to looking at the semantic relationship, the approach to identifying compounds is to classify compound words according to the part of speech of the compound and the parts of speech of its constituents (Bauer, 1983 in Delahunty, G. P., & Garvey, J. J., 2010):
  1. **Compound Nouns**
A compound noun is a word that consists of two or more words that are then combined to form a single word with the function of a noun. Examples of compound nouns include "rainbow," "toothbrush," and "classroom," which illustrate how the combination of words has created entities with different meanings. The process of forming compound nouns can be accomplished by combining two nouns, a noun and an adjective, or a verb and a noun. The more examples are as follows written in (Carstairs-McCarthy, A., 2002):
    a. verb–noun (VN): swearword, drophammer, playtime
    b. noun–noun (NN): hairnet, mosquito net, butterfly net, hair restorer
    c. adjective–noun (AN): blackboard, greenstone, faintheart
    d. preposition–noun (PN): in-group, outpost, overcoat

  2. **Compound Verbs**

The next compound word is a compound word derived from the combination of several words to form a verb that functions to convey a specific action or state. "Brainstorming," and "overthinking" are examples of compound verbs that summarize complex actions or behaviors in a concise manner.

Carstairs-McCarthy, A., (2002) exemplifies the pattern to construct compound verbs. The following are the examples.

a. verb–verb (VV): stir-fry, freeze-dry
b. noun–verb (NV): hand-wash, air-condition, steam-clean
c. adjective–verb (AV): dry-clean, whitewash
d. preposition–verb (PV): underestimate, outrun, overcook
e. Compound Adjectives

As with the general function of adjectives, namely to describe or modify a noun, compound adjectives are the result of combining two or more words with the same function. "High-tech" and "hardworking" are examples of compound adjectives resulting from combining different elements that often carry more specific connotations than either word alone. Carstairs-McCarthy, A., (2002) notes the patterns of constructing the compound adjectives.

a. noun–adjective (NA): sky-high, coal-black, oil-rich
b. adjective–adjective (AA): grey-green, squeaky-clean, red-hot
c. preposition–adjective (PA): underfull, overactive

3. Compound Adverbs

Compound adverbs, typically a single adverb, somehow play a pivotal role in conveying manner, time, place, or degree. Phrases such as "anywhere," "right now," and "well-being" exemplify the function of adverbs that describe the manner or circumstances of an action or state (Yule, G., 2022). When viewed from their function, compound adverbs contribute to the nuance of language, enhancing communication by capturing the nuances of certain expressions. Uptightly cross-modally are two examples of compound adverbs (Bauer, 1983 in Delahunty, G. P., & Garvey, J. J., 2010).

4. Neo-Classical Compounds

Neo-classical compounds draw inspiration from classical languages, such as Greek or Latin, to form new compound words (Plag, I., 2018). Terms like "astro-naut", "hydro-electric", and "mechano-phobe" are examples of Neo-classical compounds (Bauer, 1983 in Delahunty, G. P., & Garvey, J. J., 2010).

Understanding categories or types of compounds has the advantage of being able to identify trends and tendencies in linguistic innovation. Prior to this study, there have been several examples of research on compound words and their types. Christianto (2019), entitled 'Compound Words in English', investigates the types of English compound words and the lexical categories that result from the compounding process. Preliminary results suggest that English compound types can be divided into endocentric, exocentric and copulative compounds. The results of the second series show that the lexical categories resulting from the compounding process are noun compounds, verb compounds and adjective compounds. On the basis of these findings, the researcher intends to increase insight and deeper knowledge about English compound words.

This research primarily aims to identify the types and describe the meanings of compound words found in the novel The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell by Chris Colfer by Swari, K. I., Putra, I. G. B. W. N., & Maharani, P. D. (2022). This novel comprises 438 pages and 24 chapters. The descriptive qualitative method was employed in this research to analyze the data. This research utilized the theories of McCarthy (2002) regarding the types of compound words and Ullman (1972) regarding the meaning. The results of this research indicate that there are 106 instances of compound words in the novel The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell. Of these, 73 (69%) are compound nouns, 17 (16%) are compound adjectives, and 16 (15%) are compound verbs.

Research Questions

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1. What are the types and frequencies of compound words found in "The Perks of Being a Wallflower"?
2. How do the compound words contribute to the overall meaning and narrative style of the novel?

Research Objectives

This research endeavors to conduct a comprehensive morphological analysis of English, as a language, is constantly evolving over time as a result of diverse linguistic influences, with a rich and complex vocabulary that continues to develop over time. The process of creating new words in English is a testament to the dynamic nature of the language, allowing for the formation of everyday language to specialized technical terminology that meets changing communication needs. This process has also demonstrated the English language's adaptability and versatility.

In English, a new vocabulary can be created by combining two or more roots or smaller categories of phrasal words that function as words syntactically (McCarthy, 2002) to create another word (Delahunty, G. P., & Garvey, J. J., 2010). It is the process of deriving a new word by composing two or more lexical categories (O'Grady, W. & Archibald, J., 2016), where one root is the head of the compound while the other root is the modifier (Garvey, 2010). Apart from forming new words, this process also forms meanings that are sometimes very different from the original root.

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Research Questions

3. What are the types and frequencies of compound words found in "The Perks of Being a Wallflower"?
4. How do the compound words contribute to the overall meaning and narrative style of the novel?

Research Objectives

This research endeavors to conduct a comprehensive morphological analysis of English compound words in Chbosky's novel, aiming to elucidate their structural composition, semantic connotations, and narrative implications. By systematically examining the formation and usage of compound formations, this study seeks to uncover patterns of linguistic expression, shedding light on Chbosky's narrative strategies and thematic concerns. Through a rigorous exploration of language, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of how linguistic elements contribute to the broader tapestry of literary meaning within contemporary fiction.

RESEARCH METHOD

A qualitative descriptive approach was used to identify types of compound words, their construction, their production, and their semantic relationships. In order to obtain complete data, the researcher first comprehensively reviewed the data source, the novel The Perks of Being a Wallflower, to identify and extract compound words, based on Carstairs-McCarthy, A., (2017), in dialogues and narratives into the prepared table. Next, the study revealed patterns and trends of linguistic strategies used in the novel by categorizing and examining compound words converted into the prepared table. In this step, a frequency analysis is conducted to determine the prevalence of different types of compound words in the novel and to identify the most common compound word formations and their significance in the narrative. In addition to frequency analysis, this procedure also focuses on structural analysis to identify repeated morphemes, prefixes, suffixes, and other affixes, and to examine irregular or idiosyncratic formations that deviate from typical morphological patterns. Finally, the findings lead to a discussion of the function of compound words in expressing the complex story and context of the novel through semantic analysis, with the primary goal of exploring the compositional semantics of compound words to understand how the meaning of individual morphemes contributes to the overall interpretation of the compound word in context.

RESULT FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The results of the compound word analysis in this study explain that there are different patterns of compound word formation in the novel "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky. The table below elucidates the distributional types of compound words.

TYPES OF COMPOUND	OCCURRENCES	PERCENTAGE
Compound Nouns	91	90.9%
Compound Verbs	4	4.04%
Compound Adjectives	5	5.05%

Table 1. Types of compound word

The formation of compound words can be divided into three categories: compound nouns, compound adjectives, and compound verbs. A total of 100 compound words were identified, with 91 belonging to the noun category, 5 to the adjective category, and 4 to the verb category.

The following table illustrates the various patterns or structures that can be observed in the formation of compound words.

TYPES OF COMPOUND	PATTERN	OCCURRENCES	PERCENTAGE
Compound Noun	NOUN + NOUN	71	71%
	VERB + NOUN	5	5%
	ADJECTIVE + NOUN	7	7%
	PREPOSITION + NOUN	8	8%
Compound Verb	PREPOSITION + VERB	2	2%
	NOUN + VERB	3	3%
Compound Adjective	NOUN + ADJECTIVE	2	2%
	ADJECTIVE + ADJECTIVE	2	2%

Table 2. Compound word structure

It is of the utmost importance to comprehend the structure of compound words in this research in order to facilitate the recognition of linguistic patterns and conditions. Through this analysis, language learners can discern the fundamental principles governing the combination of words. In this research, it was identified that 100 compound words were classified into three categories: compound nouns, compound verbs, and compound adjectives. Furthermore, the data presented in the table above provides insights into the formation structure and the types of patterns that are commonly employed to organise words. The most common compound nouns are formed with a noun + noun pattern, comprising 71 words or approximately 71% of the total. The next most common pattern is the verb + noun pattern, comprising 5 words or around 5%. The adjective + noun pattern is the third most common, comprising 7 words or around 7%. The least common pattern is the preposition + noun pattern, which comprises 8 words or approximately 8%. The formation of compound verbs is characterised by a preposition + verb pattern with two words, representing approximately two percent of the total. The noun + verb pattern with three words accounts for a similar proportion. The final data point is the compound adjective pattern, which is built with several patterns, including the noun + adjective pattern with two words, representing approximately two percent of the total.

1. Compound Noun

The novel The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky contains 90 compound nouns, including *pillowcase, typewriter, birthday, videocassette, backseat, cheerleader, bullshit, windshield, driveway, hometown, policeman, goodbye, playground, gentleman, roommate, screenplay,* and many more.The structures of compound words can also be analyzed. The formation of compound nouns can occur through a variety of structures, including noun-noun (NN), verb-noun (VN), adjective-noun (AN), and preposition-noun (PN). These structures can take the following formats:

a. Noun–Noun (NN)

A total of 70 compound words with NN patterns are collected. These words include: wallflower, schoolmate, pinball, french fries, lunchtime, boyfriend, girlfriend, weekend, baseball, mailbox, bookstore, football, pancake, ice cream, notebook, bedroom, newspaper, and blackboard. For example, the analysis of the word "wallflower," the title of a novel, illustrates this point.

"He's a wallflower." (Page 36)

The term "wallflower" is composed of two nouns, "wall" and "flower," and is written without spaces. In this context, the compound word has a lack of transparency of meaning. Each of the constituent words, neither wall nor flower, contributes little to the formation of the compound's meaning, making it exocentric. This word does not pertain to flowers or a group of flowers that grow tall and resemble a wall. It can be argued that the term "wallflower" does not necessarily imply a wall adorned with flowers. Rather, it is more accurately representative of a shy individual who is hesitant to engage in social interactions. The compound noun, composed of two nouns, presents a unique challenge in that it lacks a clear and consistent semantic structure.

b. Verb-Noun (VN)

The study of compound nouns continues with the discovery of four compound words structured with verbs and nouns. These include breakfast, touchdown, pickup, and washcloth. For example, the word washcloth can be analyzed.

"She brought out a damp washcloth and put it on my forehead." (Page 158)

The word washcloth is a compound word written without spaces with an endocentric semantic relationship marking that it has high semantic transparency. It is formed from two free morphemes, "wash" (verb) and "cloth" (noun). The word "wash" is a verb that means to wash or clean something, usually with water. The word "cloth" is a piece of clothing or woven material. The word "washcloth" itself means a small piece of clothing used to clean the body, usually the face or hands. Hence, the meaning of this compound word is derived from the head "cloth."

c. Adjective–Noun (AN)

The next pattern identified in this research is the combination of adjectives and nouns, resulting in seven compound words. These include blackboard, bullhorn, grandparent, freshman, grandpa, grandma, and goodbye.

"... heard Mr. Vaughn's voice on the loudspeaker." (Page, 10)

One example is "loudspeaker," which is written without spaces and is formed from the words "loud" (adjective) and "loudspeaker" (noun). This word is a combination of two free morphemes, namely "loud" and "speaker." The word "loud" is an adjective that means a very loud sound. The word "speaker" is a noun that has two meanings: a person who speaks and a device for playing recorded sound, usually part of a radio or television. The word "loudspeaker" is a compound noun that means equipment that converts signals into sound. This compound word has high semantic transparency because the meaning of the compound word is more identical to the word "speaker" than "loud."

d. Preposition–Noun (PN)

The next pattern is found in compound nouns comprising lexical categories of prepositions and nouns, with a total of 8 examples. The data that was found includes middle age, interview, underwear, afternoon, city centre, undergraduate, underground, midterm exams.

"... proud to have a midlife crisis." (Page, 12)

For example, the word "midlife" can be considered a compound word, comprising two elements with the categories of preposition and noun, and written without spaces. The word "mid" is a preposition, signifying "in the middle," whereas "life" is a noun denoting the period following birth and preceding death. The meaning of the compound noun "midlife" is more readily discernible, as the function of the word "life" as a head contributes more to its formation. In contrast, the word "mid" functions as a modifier, indicating the period between the ages of 45 and 60. Therefore, midlife can be defined as an endocentric compound noun, denoting the span of life between the ages of 45 and 60.

2. Compound Adjective

Another type of compound word identified in this research is the adjective compound word. Several patterns have been identified that form these compound words. In this study, researchers were able to identify at least five compound adjectives in the novel The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky. These include "red-faced," "cloudy," and "hand-colored."

The four words were then successfully categorized into several patterns, including: Noun-Adjective (NA), and Adjective-Adjective (AA).

a. Noun–Adjective (NA)

There are 2 compound words found within the formed lexical category of noun and adjective. Those are hand-colored and handcrafted.

"He even hand-colored the cover." (Page, 16)

The term "hand-colored" represents an instance of a compound word constructed with the use of a hyphen, which is employed to connect the two constituent elements. This specific word can be described as a combination of the noun "hand," which denotes a body part used to grasp or hold, and the adjective "colored," which is used to indicate the application or creation of color. Once the meaning is established, the compound word "hand-colored" can be defined as an adjective compound with a colored head, which

alters the overall meaning of the word to refer to craft work that is colored manually or by hand. Consequently, this compound word is classified as an endocentric compound, exhibiting high semantic transparency.

b.   Adjective–Adjective (AA)

Adjective compound words can also be formed by combining the lexical category adjective and adjective (AA). This research reveals two examples of compound words with this pattern: "red-faced" and "straightforward."

"It was pretty straightforward, ..." (Page, 133)

The word "straightforward" is a compound word with no spaces between the words. It is formed by combining two free morphemes with the same adjective lexical category. The two morphemes are "straight" and "forward." The word "straight" means not curved. However, the meaning of this word can also mean honest. Meanwhile, the meaning of the word "forward" in the adjective explains direction and movement forward. Consequently, the term 'straightforward' is defined as being straightforward, concise, and uncomplicated. The word 'straight' serves to modify, specifying a particular manner, direction, or quality, whereas 'forward' acts as the head, conveying notions of directness or simplicity.

3. Compound Verb

The results of this study demonstrate the existence of compound verbs, a class of words that can be formed through various patterns of composition. These include six distinct examples: babysitting, overheard, overcast, lip-syncing, whistling, and homecoming. The data analysis indicates that these compound words can be classified into several distinct categories, including Verb-Verb (VV), Noun-Verb (NV), and Preposition-Verb (PV). The following section presents a discussion of these patterns.

a.   Noun–Verb (NV)

This pattern comprises three compound verbs, namely "baby-sitting," "lip-synching," and "homecoming." These verbs exhibit a common word formation pattern, whereby they combine noun and verb elements.

"... it won't be the same without Patrick lip-synching." (Page, 137)

The term "lip sync" is a compound word derived from the combination of the word "lip" and "sync." Upon analysis of the constituent elements, it becomes evident that "lip" in this context denotes the soft, oral cavity structure used for sensory perception, while "synchronization" refers to a coordinated movement or action. In this instance, "synchronization" assumes the role of the head, serving as the primary element of the compound word. "Lip," as a modifier, specifies the particular type of synchronization involved. The newly created meaning is the act of moving one's lips in synchronization with pre-recorded audio. Therefore, it is evident that this compound word exhibits an endocentric pattern, with one of the elements serving as the head.

c.   Preposition-Adjective (PA)

Additionally, compound words can be constructed using the preposition–adjective (PV) pattern. This research identifies two instances of this pattern in the words "overcast" and "Overheard."

"The sky was overcast with clouds, ..." (Page, 39)

The word overcast is a compound word with no space between the words. Overcast is structured with two lexical categories, preposition and verb. The word over is a preposition that derives the meaning of above or very high that can cover something up. The word cast however is a verb that means covering an object with darkness. The word overcast is a compound adjective and the meaning of the word is about the weather when the sky is covered with dark clouds.

Compound Words and Its Semantic Meaning

Studying the morphological aspects of language is not limited to the analysis of individual words and their constituent parts; it also encompasses the creation of new words or word forms (Booij, 2005). The process of forming new words, such as through the technique of compounding, exemplifies a dynamic perspective on language. In English, compounding plays a significant role in enriching vocabulary, expressing complex concepts, and fostering semantic innovation. Understanding the various types of compounds helps language users to enhance their comprehension of language formation. It is evident that knowledge of endocentric and exocentric compounds allows for the deciphering of unfamiliar words based on the structural clues provided by their constituent parts.

This research revealed a trend depicted in the table below.

No.	Types of Semantic Relationship	Frequency
1	Endocentric (Headed)	88
2	Exocentric (Headless)	12

Table 3. Semantic Relationship Data

The preceding data demonstrates an upward trend in the usage of compound words, based on their semantic relationship. The data indicates that, with regards to this narrative, the tendency is to use more endocentric than exocentric compound words. The figures show that out of the one hundred compound words that were found, 88 words were endocentric compounds, while the remaining 12 words were exocentric compounds. Endocentric compounds, wherein one constituent serves as the head and imparts the primary meaning to the compound and its lexical-syntactic category (Miller, D. G., 2014), and exocentric compounds, which lack a clear head and semantic transparency, and derive meaning from the combination of constituents (Bauer, L., 2017; Bauer, L., 2008), represent fundamental linguistic constructs. This research data indicates, for example, that "loudspeaker" may be perceived as a novel word by some individuals. Subsequently, it became apparent that this was an endocentric compound, providing the information that "speaker" is the primary element, suggesting that it is concerned with sound amplification, while the "loud" element determines the type of speaker.

Other research also reaches the same conclusion, as evidenced by the findings of Hadiati, C. (2011) in their study, A Morphological Analysis of English Compound Words in Tolstoy's God Sees the Truth, But Waits. Of the 60 compound words identified, the majority (46) were found to be endocentric compounds. In an investigation of metaphor-based compounds and metonymy in English, Benczes (2005) found that there are more endocentric compounds than exocentric compounds in English. This is despite the fact that exocentric compounds are relatively uncommon, and therefore excluded from systematic linguistic analysis. This is because the use of exocentric or headless compound groups is often considered to be an exceptional case.

By analyzing the head in these compound words, it helps every language user develop linguistic awareness, enabling them to identify the meaning of words. This process aids vocabulary acquisition and interpretation, allowing individuals to understand new words more efficiently. In addition to that, studying these compounds provides valuable insights into the mechanisms of word formation, enriching language comprehension and analysis.

Conclusion

The data from the analysis in this research indicates a trend in the use of compound words in the context of a novel, with each forming structure and its semantics considered. This research reveals that the category of compound nouns is more widely used than compound verbs and adjectives. Furthermore, the investigation of their constituent structures explains that compound nouns mostly follow the noun + noun pattern, whereas compound verbs and adjectives show a variety of formations, including verb + noun and noun + adjective patterns. The analysis of these patterns is beneficial in improving

understanding of word formation mechanisms and simultaneously facilitating effective language acquisition and interpretation.

Furthermore, conclusions were drawn in the semantic analysis of each compound word, which confirmed that endocentric compounds have a tendency to be used more than exocentric compound words. The pattern and function of endocentric compound words is that they have a head that conveys the main meaning, whereas exocentric compound words lack a clear head and their meaning is obtained from the combination of their elements. This research not only highlights the patterns of compound word formation but also emphasizes their significance in understanding and interpreting language. Many other studies have yielded results in line with the conclusions of this study. This indicates that endocentric compounds in English compound words are more prevalent than exocentric. An understanding of the structure and semantics of compound words increases linguistic awareness, facilitates vocabulary acquisition and contributes to a deeper understanding of language mechanisms.

Suggestion

The results of this study on the morphological examination of "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" compound words have important educational ramifications for English language instructors. Teachers can help students develop a wider vocabulary and improve their morphological awareness by helping them comprehend the structure and function of compound words. By examining the semantic connections between word components, compound words can help students become more proficient interpreters. Additionally, by utilizing literary texts such as Chbosky's novel, students are able to recognize the complex meanings and emotional depth that are expressed through compound words, which enhances their ability to analyze literature and write. Thus, emphasizing compound terms in English language training can result in a more thorough and interesting language learning process.

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