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CONTENT

SECTION A: LANGUAGE Pragmatic Analysis of Tones and Tonal Patterns in Igala Language Abdul, Mohammed Ademu	1
Process Choice Analysis of President Muhammadu Buhari Inauguration Speech Mohammed Maikiyari, Ph.D and Ramatu Tijani Oziti	's 2015 12
Quantifiers in English and Izhia: A Minimalist Investigation Maria-Helen Ekah, Ph.D and Chibueze Egbe Aleke	26
A Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Images of Banditry in <i>Daily Trust Net</i> Cartoons	wspaper
Nguhemen Jebe-Tume	42
Critical Discourse Analysis of Persuasion in Donald Trump's 2024 Vio Speech	ctory
Hauwa Giwa-Ali, Ph.D	60
Political Discourse Analysis of Selected Plenary Speeches of Nigeria's President Codswill Aknabio	Senate
Ahmad Musa Saleh and Abdul'aziz Bako, Ph.D	73
Rethinking Social Order: Racism within and After Covid-19 Pandemic Abaya, Henry Demenongo	84
Irregularities In The Grammar of the English Language: Blindspots for Pedagogical Attention in ESL Classrooms Cecilia Folasade Ojetunde, Ph.D. and Osineiu, Babasola Samuel	105
An Analysis of Levical Cohesive Devices in Covernor Ahmadu Fintiri's	100
Inauguration Speech Muazu Hassan and Hauwa Giwa-Ali, Ph.D	121
Non-observance of Grice's Maxims: A Study of Some Selected Dialogu Play – Harvest of Corruption	es in the
Abdulkadir Adamu and Usman Maigari Malala	140
The Morphology of Personal Names in English and Ebira Languages Amina Salisu Aliyu, Ph.D, Ahmadu Mohammed Dauda, Ph.D and J Jarafu Jawur	James 153
Impact of Gamification on Vocabulary Acquisition and Retention among	Private
Adedokun, James Adekunle and Olabode, Adeyinka Ayoola, Ph.D	169





The Expansionist Approach to the Teaching of the English Grammatical Categories: Examples with the Naming Category	
Khabyr Fasasi	187
Digital Media Learning and Postmodernist Classroom Innovations in Nig Universities	erian
Maggai Tsokwa and Fatima Inuwa	201
The Pronunciation of the New English Native Speakers in Nigeria Ngor, Cornelius Iko-awaji	210
Lexico-Semantic Analysis of ASUU-FGN Impasse In Nigerian Newspapers Awoniyi Olalekan Ogundeji and Happiness Uduk, Ph.D	222
A Critical Stylistic Analysis of a Channels Television Show, 'Politics Today Waliyah A. Akeju and Muhyideen Kolawole Ayuba	,' 237
An Investigation on Functionality and Usage of Language Laboratories for Teaching Oral English in Colleges of Education in Bauchi State Bakoji Mohammed Fema, PhD, Alhaji Abubakar, PhD and Fatima	r
Mohammed	249
A Pragmatic Investigation of the Speech of Former President Muhammad Buhari on Covid-19 Pandemic in 2020	lu
	262
Rhetoricity In Orality: An Analysis of Muhammadu Dan'Anace's "Shagon . Garba Adamu, Ph.D and Ashiru Abdullahi	Mafara" 277
A Semantic Analysis of Selected Mwaghavul Proverbs Danji Sabo and Kyetu Mandyen DanlamI	286
Investigating Linguistic Features of North-East Nigerian Suicide Notes Yunana Ahmed, Ph.D and Danladi, Daniel Boyi	300
A Morphological Study of Derivational Patterns In Android Smartphone Terminologies	
Ahmadu Mohammed Dauda, Ph.D and Abdulkarim Musa Yola	315
Lexical choices and Ideology in Nigeria's Security and Development Discuthe Nigeria's Media	ourse in
	320
Syntax and Semantics Interface Mohammed Gambo, Ph.D	346
Colonial Legacy in Tunde Kelani's Saworoide: Language Power and L	Registan

Colonial Legacy in Tunde Kelani's *Saworoide*: Language, Power, and Resistance Okunnuwa, Sunday J. Ph.D, Ibrahim, Wahab Adegbayi, and Sobande, Olukayode Olukemi 355



SECTION B: LITERATURE

An Appraisal of Cult Symbols In The Selected Songs of American POP Artists Tanimu, Abubakar (Prof) and Adekunle, Joseph	365
Enlightenment for Empowerment: A Feminist Reading of Safiya Yero'S Najah Manta G. Yadok and Ishaya: Bilyaminu Salman	380
Arab-Muslim Immigrants and the Limits of Cultural Citizenship in H.M. Naqv	i's Home
Olamiposi Oyeleye, Ph.D., Oladiran Damilola Peju, Ph.D. and Patrickb(Alex, Ph.D.	Charles 395
The Artist and Leadership Failure In Africa: A Study of Ngugi Wa Thiong'O'S Wiz	ard of
Dr. Manasseh Terwase Iortyer, Prof. Jeff Godwin Doki and Bizuum Godwill Yadok	411
Narratives of Conflict: A Literary Exploration of Boko Haram's Impact in Politics Security in Nigeria's Northeast Since 2009	and
Markus Ishaku	421
Literary Creativity and the Condition of the Nigerian Writer in the Age of Global	zation
Adebayo, Abidemi Olufemi, PhD and Bukola, Olubunmi Iyabo, M.A	431
Amali's Faces of Shame as Reflection of Leadership at the Altar of Ethics and Dec Isah Ibrahim PhD	orum 442
Of Mothers as Mistresses: Jocasta Complex and Transference in Abubakar Adam	Ibrahim's
David Mikailu Ph.D.	452
Stylistic Explorations of Love: Conceptual Metaphor In Mariama Bâ'S So Long a	Letter and
Aaynab Alkali S The virtuous woman Anwar Danjuma, Maryam Mukhtar Abdullahi, Muntari Babangida and Sula Harisu	iman 462
The Influence of Nigerian Folktales on National Identity and Values Jimoh, Olumide Yusuf, Ph.D. and Adedokun, James Adekunle	474
Discontents and the Quest for National Rebirth in Karen King-Aribisala's Kicking Okache C. Odey	g Tongues 487
An Assessment of Performance of Bauchi State Senior Secondary School Student	s in
Professor Asabe Sadiya Mohammed, Dr Alhaji Abubakar and Haruna Shua Hardawa	bu 496





wixt And Between Colonial Hegemony and Contemporaneity: Examining The Voy	
Andrew Aondofa Nyikyaa	508
Investigating the Educational Advisory Roles of Tera Proverbs Alheri Bulus	527
SECTION C: COMMUNICATION	
The Media Influence on Economic Development Through Addressing Gender-Bas Violence (GBV) DANGO. Salamatu Eshi and ABDULLAHI. Hussaina Abaii	sed 535
Social Media Discourse and Peace Negotiations in Contemporary Nigeria Peter Ochefu Okpeh, Ph.D., Theodore Shey Nsairun and Okpeadua Sony Okpeadua, PhD	546
When Robots take over Journalism: systemic Considerations for Artificial Intell and Practical Realities in Nigerian Television Newsroom Maggai Tsokwa and Tebrimam Useni Andefatso	ligence 560
Mitigating Fake News Through Media Literacy Education: The Perception and Ex of Masaka Market Traders in Karu Ben Ita Odeba, Ayuba Ummah Ibrahim and Desmond Onyemechi Okocha, PhD.	perience 574
An Assessment of Adherence to Journalism Code of Conduct among Journalists ir State	n Plateau
Dorcas Agabison, Prof. Greg H. Ezeah, Maggai Tsokwa and Orya Theophilu Tertsea	ıs 597
An Assessment of the Two-Way Communication Model of Public Relations Used 1 the University of Jos School Fees Increase in 2023	During
James E. Amad, Evaristus J. Ugboma and Chidimma Precious Okechukwu	616
An Assessment of the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Business Communication	
EIMOGA Audu	632

SECTION D: CREATIVE WORKS/BOOK REVIEW

Poems for Savannah Journal of Language, Literature and Communication Studies Ismail Bala 647

The Loss-Land Fatima Inuwa

652





Dustbins and Dreams Abdulkadir Mubarak	657
The Desperate: Desire of a Feminine Soul Faith Nkeri Aliyu	664
Gumakan Zamani: A Book Review Mohammad Abubakar M.	667



A Morphological Study of Derivational Patterns in Android Smartphone Terminologies

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Abstract

This paper examines a morphological study of derivational patterns in android smartphone terminologies, aiming to analyze the morphological dynamics that shape the terminology associated with android smartphones. The study investigates how terms evolve through derivational processes, enhancing their flexibility within the context of rapidly advancing technology. The primary data is collected from the settings of the Samsung Galaxy S10 Plus, encompassing a diverse range of terminologies, including system connections, app usage, and notifications. An integrated approach is employed for data presentation and analysis, categorizing terms based on morphological processes like prefixation, suffixation, compounding, and derivation. Utilizing Aronoff and Fudeman's (2011) theoretical framework on derivational morphology, the research reveals that affixation (both prefixes and suffixes), compounding, and derivation play pivotal roles in expanding the technical lexicon of Android. The findings indicate that these morphological processes not only facilitate clear communication about technological concepts but also demonstrate the flexibility and adaptability of language, as it evolves alongside technological advancements. This study contributes valuable insights into the interplay between language and technology, underscoring the significance of derivational patterns in shaping user interactions and understanding within the Android ecosystem.

Keywords: Derivational morphology, Android smartphone terminology, morphological flexibility, Derivational Patterns, linguistic innovation.

1.0 Introduction

This research explores the derivational patterns in Android smartphone terminology, concentrating on how these terms shift morphologically to generate new words or modify their grammatical classifications (Smith & Johnson, 2020; Green, 2019; Li & Chen, 2021; Taylor, 2020). The paper also considers how these derivational processes impact both the functional dynamics of Android's linguistic framework and broader implications for language development in the context of technology (Anderson, 2017).

Advancements in technology have profoundly influenced language, especially through the introduction of





new terminologies that describe innovative developments (Patel & Kumar, 2019). Android, recognized as the most widely used smartphone operating system worldwide, has played a significant role in the evolution of linguistic expressions. These terms emerge not only through compounding derivational and experience processes but also their modifications that change meanings (Wilson, 2022). Derivational morphology, which encompasses the creation of new words or the alteration of a word's grammatical category, is vital for ensuring that these terms are flexible and applicable across various contexts.

The swift progression of smartphone technology, particularly within the Android ecosystem, has given rise to a distinctive set of terminologies that adapt alongside technological advancements (Brown, While these 2018). terms are essential for effective communication in technology, scholarly research on morphological flexibility their particularly regarding derivational remains limited. patterns Derivational morphology, which alters words to create new meanings or shift grammatical categories, is sure crucial in making these terminologies can function in diverse linguistic settings (see Green, A. (2019). However, the insufficient exploration of how Android terms demonstrate such flexibility and the ways in which derivational patterns affect user engagement with technology have created a gap in our understanding of how language

adapts to fulfill technological requirements. This gap underscores the necessity for a targeted study on the impacts of derivational patterns in shaping the adaptability of Android terminology.

This study aims to bridge this gap by examining the derivational patterns that characterize Android smartphone terminology, with a particular focus on their morphological flexibility. It seeks to analyze how these terms are modified to convey a range of meanings and to investigate the role of derivational morphology enhancing in the adaptability of language within technological contexts (see Patel, S., & Kumar, R. 2019). By exploring these derivational processes, the research aims to illuminate how flexible language use in technological settings influences user understanding and the interaction within Android ecosystem. Ultimately, this study aspires to contribute to the broader discourse on how language evolves alongside technological progress.

Derivational Morphology refers to a branch of morphology that examines how new words are formed by adding various affixes (such as suffixes, prefixes, infixes, or circumfixes) to existing roots or words. This process not only changes the meaning of the original word but often transforms its grammatical category. For example, by adding the prefix "un-" to the verb "lock," we create the new verb "unlock," which conveys an opposite action. Similarly, the addition of the suffix "-ness" can convert the adjective "happy" into the





noun "happiness," representing a state or condition. The primary functions of derivational morphology include:

i. Word Formation: It enables the generation of new entries in the lexicon, thereby enriching a language's vocabulary.

ii. Semantic Change: It modifies the meaning of the base word, allowing for more nuanced expression by speakers.

iii. Grammatical Category Shift: It frequently alters the grammatical class of a word, thereby facilitating different syntactic roles within sentences.

Derivational morphology is essential for linguistic creativity, particularly in rapidly changing fields like technology, where there is a continual need for new terms to describe evolving concepts, devices, and functionalities (Booij, 2007).

2.0 Literature review

Morphology, a key area of linguistics, investigates the structure and formation of words, focusing on how words are constructed from smaller meaningful units called morphemes. Morphological processes are generally categorized into two primary types: derivational and inflectional. Derivational morphology is a process of forming new words or grammatical altering а word's category, while inflectional morphology modifies a word to reflect grammatical relationships without changing its core category (Aronoff & Fudeman, 2011).

Derivational morphemes typically consist of prefixes or suffixes that change the meaning of a base word (Crystal, 2008). A common illustration is the prefix "un-" added "install" to create "uninstall." to indicating the reversal of the action, or the suffix "-able" in "installable," which converts the verb into an adjective. These derivational processes are integral to terminology related to Android, where they facilitate language evolution in tandem with technological effective advancements. ensuring communication.

Martinez (2019) explores the morphological processes involved in the development of medical terminologies. The analysis focused on how affixation and compounding are employed to create complex medical terms. Martinez discovers that prefixes, such as "hyper-" and "hypo-," play a crucial role in modifying the meanings of root words to indicate conditions related to excess or deficiency, respectively. She also notes the productivity of "-itis" suffixes like (indicating inflammation) "-ectomy" and (indicating surgical removal) in forming new terms. The study that morphological concludes analysis of medical terms can provide a deeper understanding of how terms evolve to accommodate new medical discoveries and procedures. This research underscores the significance of morphological structures in both the creation and comprehension of complex terminologies within medical fields.



In an analysis of technological terminologies, Lee and Wang (2020) examine the linguistic mechanisms behind the formation of terms related to computer science and information technology. The study focuses on how compounding and blending have become prominent word-formation processes in the creation of new technical terms. For example, they analyzed terms like "malware" (a blend of "malicious" and "software") and "cyberspace" (a compound of "cyber" and "space"). The authors found that blending is a particularly productive process in technologyrelated fields, where new innovations require rapid lexical adaptation. The research provides empirical evidence that the dynamic nature of technological advancements is mirrored the morphological in create processes used to new reflecting terminology, both the complexity and innovation within the field.

present study shares The significant similarities with Martinez's and Lee and Wang's studies in its emphasis on morphological processes and the evolution of terminology (see Li, X., & Chen, Y. 2021). However, it distinctly focuses on Android smartphone terminology, incorporates a specific theoretical framework, and addresses a unique research gap related to linguistic flexibility in mobile technology. This differentiation allows the study to contribute new insights into the dynamic interaction between language and technology.

2.1 Methodology

The data for this study are collected through detailed а examination of the terminologies used in the Android Smartphone Samsung S10 Plus Settings. This involves manually extracting terms from different sections of the smartphone settings, such as system connections, app usage, lock screen, notifications, display, accessibility, and more. These extracted terms serve as the corpus for analysis. The primary source of data is the Android Samsung S10 Plus device, as the within terminologies used the device's settings are directly examined. Other secondary sources, where additional in cases explanations comparisons are or needed. relevant literature on smartphone terminologies, Android system documentation, or online tech glossaries, may be consulted to provide context.

The data are presented and analyzed simultaneously in lists that categorize the terminologies based on the derivational morphological processes identified. Each term is broken down to demonstrate how derivational processes like prefixation, suffixation, compounding, and other forms of word formation are applied. The analysis focuses on identifying and describing the morphological patterns such as the use of prefixes (e.g., "auto-", "multi-"), suffixes (e.g., "-able", "-tion"), and compounds "bluetooth". (e.g., "airplane mode"). Each morphological process is explained in terms of how





it contributes to the creation of clear and adaptable technical terminology in the Android system. For example, how the use of a certain suffix may create a technical term that is easily understood by users.

2.2 Theoretical Framework

Aronoff and Fudeman (2011) provide a comprehensive framework understanding morphological for processes, particularly focusing on derivation and its implications for language structure and function. Their theoretical insights can be directly applied to the study of derivational patterns in Android smartphone terminology, particularly regarding morphological flexibility. Here is how their theory can be contextualized within the following kev Concepts: Morphemes: Aronoff and Fudeman emphasize that morphemes are the smallest units of meaning in a language. Thev categorize morphemes into two main types: free morphemes (which can stand alone as words) and bound morphemes (which must attach to morphemes); derivational other Morphemes: These are affixes added to base words to create new words or alter grammatical categories. For instance, the prefix "re-" in "restart" indicates a repeated action, while the "-able" in "downloadable" suffix signifies capability; Adaptability: The theorv posits that language is inherently flexible and adaptable, particularly in dynamic fields like technology. Derivational morphology plays a crucial role in this adaptability, allowing speakers to create and modify terms to fit new contexts.

Semantic Shift: As observed in the evolving landscape of Android terminology, the meanings of existing words often change as new terms are formed, demonstrating the interplay between derivation and semantic change. For example, "bug" has shifted from referring to insects to denoting software errors.

3.0 Data Presentation and Analysis

This section emphasizes the simultaneous presentation and analysis of data to clarify the relationships between the collected information and the study of derivational morphology. Specifically, the data is analysed based on the different categories of morphological processes.

The Android smartphone domain exemplifies the significant role that derivational morphology plays in adapting and shaping language within a technological context. As Android technology evolves, new terminologies arise to advancements encapsulate in software, hardware, user interfaces, and applications. Below are some key derivational patterns observed in terminologies related to Android smartphones:

Prefixation

 Usage: Numerous Android terms incorporate prefixes to signify specific functionalities or actions. For instance, the prefix "re-" is often utilized in terms such as "restart" (to start again) and "reload" (to





load again), indicating an action that entails returning to a previous state.

• Implication: This pattern aids users in understanding the functionalities of various applications and features by indicating a repetitive or reversed action (Plag, 2003).

Suffixation

- Usage: Suffixes like "-able" and "-ment" are commonly found in Android terminology. For example, "downloadable" denotes that something can be downloaded, while "management" pertains to the act of overseeing applications or data.
- Implication: Suffixation facilitates the formation of adjectives and nouns that enhance the descriptive richness of technical language, making it easier for users to comprehend the functionalities of applications and services (Spencer, 1991).

Compounding

- Usage: Compounds are formed by merging two or more words to create a new term, such as "smartphone," which combines "smart" and "phone." Other examples include "app store" and "cloud computing."
- Implication: Compounding illustrates the integration of concepts and functionalities, leading to the creation of new

terms that efficiently communicate complex ideas (Bauer, 1983).

Derivational

- Usage: This process entails creating a new term by adding affixes to a base word, as seen in terms like "Androidify" (to make something Android-like), which derives from the root word "Android." In this case, the suffix "-ify" is added to convey the transformation.
- Implication: Derivation enhances linguistic creativity, showcasing cultural trends and the unique identity of Android technology (Malkiel, 1990).

3.1 Data Analysis

3.1.1 Affixation

Affixation is a morphological process that involves attaching prefixes and suffixes to base words to create new terms with distinct meanings. This process plays a vital role in the expansion of vocabulary across languages, particularly in specialized domains like technology, where rapid innovation necessitates the continuous creation of new terms.

i. Suffixes:

{-ion}: This suffix is instrumental in transforming verbs into nouns that represent the action or result of that verb. For instance, the term "notification" encapsulates the action of notifying. In technological contexts, such transformations are prevalent,





enhancing clarity in discussions about processes and functionalities within various systems or applications.

{-ment}: By converting verbs into nouns that reflect actions or outcomes, this suffix appears in terms like "management." In technology, this term is crucial, particularly in contexts involving software for project management, where it underscores the supervisory aspect of technological processes.

{-ness}: This suffix modifies adjectives into nouns, indicating a state or quality, as seen in "brightness." In user interfaces and device settings, this term significantly influences user experience, enabling users to adjust settings based on qualitative descriptors.

{-ity}: This suffix creates nouns that express a state or condition, exemplified by "visibility." It plays a key role in describing technology features, such as screen visibility or the user interface's clarity.

{-er:} By denoting an individual performing an action (e.g., "manager"), this suffix is significant in defining roles and titles within technology organizations, thus shaping organizational structure and job descriptions.

{-less}: This suffix conveys the absence of something, as in "wireless." This term has gained prominence in contemporary technology, reflecting a shift toward untethered communication methods and devices.

{-ize:} This suffix converts nouns or adjectives into verbs, denoting actions (e.g., "customize"). Its flexibility allows for the dynamic expression of technological capabilities and user preferences.

ii. Prefixes:

{Re-}: Indicating repetition or a return to a previous state, this prefix appears in terms like "restore." It is essential in software functionalities, such as restoring files or settings to their original state.

{Un-}: This prefix denotes negation (e.g., "unknown"), reflecting the presence of unidentified elements within technological systems or applications.

{De-}: Implied removal or reversal "decrypt") is crucial (e.g., in discussions about security features and processes, underscoring the of safeguarding importance information. The process of affixation significantly enriches the lexicon of technology, providing a structured framework for articulating complex ideas in a more accessible manner. Each affix imbues words with nuanced meanings, enabling precise communication of concepts that are critical to technological discourse and facilitating better understanding among users and developers.

3.1.2 Compounding

Compounding refers to the linguistic process of combining two or more free morphemes to generate new terms. This enhances the flexibility and specificity of technical language,





allowing for the creation of terms that accurately reflect complex ideas and functionalities in technology.

Analysis of Compound Types

i. Noun + Noun:

- Terms such as "Samsung account" and "data usage" provide clear definitions of products and services, ensuring users can navigate digital environments effectively.

ii. Noun + Verb:

- Examples like "flight mode" and "screen saver" serve to clarify device functionalities, aiding users in understanding how to utilize their technology effectively.

iii. Adjective + Noun:

Terms such as "dark mode" and "secure folder" highlight features that enhance user experience, particularly in terms of safety and usability within technology.The process of compounding reflects the practical needs of both users and developers within the technology sector. The emergence of specific terms facilitates communication, ensuring that users can readily comprehend and engage with technology. This linguistic development is vital for accommodating the rapid evolution of technological innovations and trends.

3.1.4 Derivation

Derivational morphology involves the addition of affixes to base words, leading to the creation of new words that often change grammatical categories and meanings. This process is crucial in the technological realm, as it allows language to adapt and evolve in order to describe novel concepts and tools.

Analysis of Derivational Patterns

i. Verb to Noun $(V \rightarrow N)$:

Terms such as "notification" and "vibration" demonstrate how actions can be named, reflecting their importance in user interactions with technology.

ii. Adjective to Noun (Adj \rightarrow N):

The transformation of adjectives into nouns, exemplified by "security" and "brightness," underscores the qualities of technological devices, which are vital for users to make informed decisions.

iii. Noun to Noun $(N \rightarrow N)$:

Deriving new nouns from existing ones (e.g., "cloud storage") illustrates the ongoing innovation within the tech industry, allowing for a clear definition of new functionalities and services.

iv. Verb to Verb $(V \rightarrow V)$:

Transformations such as "encrypt" to "decrypt" highlight how derivation can articulate opposing actions, a critical aspect for comprehending security measures within technological contexts.

3.2 Results and Discussion

The study revealed that morphological processes, including affixation, compounding, and





derivational morphology, are fundamental to the development of Android smartphone terminologies. Affixation, especially prefixation and suffixation, is instrumental in generating technical terms that are both user-friendly and versatile. Prefixes such as "re-" (e.g., restart and reload) and "auto-" (e.g., autofill) enable users to easily understand feature functionalities, while suffixes like "-able" (e.g., downloadable, and "-ment" customizable) (e.g., *management*) provide grammatical and semantic adaptability. Compounding also plays a significant role, combining lexemes to create terms like *bluetooth* and *airplane* mode, which convey complex concepts with clarity. Together, these morphological processes enhance semantic transparency, making Android terminologies accessible to varied linguistic users across backgrounds.

The research further highlighted the flexibility and adaptability of Android terminologies, showing how derivational morphology allows evolve alongside terms to technological advancements. Examples such as installable, uninstall, and multitaskina illustrate the dynamic nature of language in addressing new functionalities. The findings also support Aronoff and Fudeman's (2011)theoretical framework, which underscores the importance of derivational morphology in building and adapting technical vocabularies. This study underscores the connection between linguistic innovation and technological development.

demonstrating how morphological structures improve usability and interaction. It addresses a significant research gap by providing an indepth analysis of derivational patterns in Android terminologies and paves the way for further exploration of the linguistic effects of technological growth in specialized domains.

3.3. Contribution to Knowledge

This research makes important contributions to our understanding of linguistic flexibility, especially in the context of technological progress. It highlights how derivational patterns in Android smartphone terminology showcase language's ability to adapt to fastpaced technological developments, facilitating more efficient and precise communication. By expanding the technical vocabulary, these morphological processes enhance user engagement with technology, making technical terms easier to understand. The studv's interdisciplinary approach bridges linguistics and technology, offering key insights into how language evolves alongside innovation. It also lays the groundwork for further research on morphological patterns in different technological fields and provides practical applications for educators, technologists, and communication experts. Ultimately, this research underscores the vital link between language and technology, emphasizing the role of linguistic innovation in the modern digital landscape.



4.0 Conclusion

This study investigates the derivational patterns in Android smartphone terminology, highlighting the crucial role of derivational morphology in promoting linguistic flexibility and adaptability amid rapid technological changes. By examining various morphological processessuch as affixation, compounding, blending, and semantic shifts-the research underscores the dynamic interaction between language and technology. The findings reveal that derivational morphology enhances communication within the Android ecosystem, as the use of prefixes and suffixes like "re-," "un-," and "-able" modifies meanings and grammatical categories, thereby enriching vocabulary and improving user interactions. Additionally, the study identifies a gap in existing literature the morphological regarding flexibility of Android terminology, emphasizing the need for linguistic innovation as technology evolves. The ongoing development of terminology calls for further exploration of how derivational processes influence user understanding and engagement with new technologies. Ultimately, the study enriches our comprehension of the relationship between language and technology, illustrating that the evolution of terminology in the Android ecosystem reflects broader linguistic trends driven bv technological advancements and emphasizes the significance of understanding derivational patterns as a manifestation of language's fluid nature in а rapidly changing environment.

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