



**MORPHOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATIONS AMONG CRIMINOLOGY STUDENTS'
SOCIAL MEDIA POST**

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to look into the morphological transformations that students use nowadays. These technological breakthroughs, particularly the Covid-19 pandemic, have shaped humanity. Through social media, language evolution has had a noticeable impact on how we think about or view the world around us. Human beings do not exist in the objective world alone or in the world of social interaction as is commonly assumed, but are very much at the mercy of the unique language that has become the medium of expression for their society, particularly those who are unable to socialize outside. Younger generations use a variety of morphological transformations. The study employs a qualitative method based on textual analysis and qualitative explanations based on commonly posted words found on any social media platform. Several words written by college students specializing in Criminology have been posted on social media platforms such as Facebook and Messenger as platform used by teachers. Clearly, the morphological pattern of words is gradually routing, owing to new, emerging words that are clearly adapted and exploited by language users. Morphological processes included non-concatenative, stress placement and tone, incorporation and suppletion and morphological transformations included blending eponym, acronym, mixed languages and reversion. It implies that the world of communication is impacted by the standardization of the English language. It is recommended that criminology students study their morphological transformations in order to communicate with millennials more quickly and effectively.

Keywords: Criminology, *Morphological Transformation, Social Media Posts*

Introduction

Ultimately, the students of today have been enticed by what technology has to offer. This technological emergence has generated a tremendous propensity to react to humanity, particularly this pandemic that affects everyone. They were so engulfed in this machinery's world that their lives were immensely affected. As reported by the local news in ABS-CBN dated last February 1 2021, the average Filipino youth spends eight hours a day on their phones. Six hours are spent on social media sites over those eight hours, and the remaining two hours are spent texting and calling. Live streaming and posting are assigned to the hours consumed by social networking sites. The intense guzzling of social media has given rise to student atypical creation of contact patterns with each other. Gone are the days when the youth anchored their language and used it, especially in out-of-classroom activities: on the rules of standardization—how unruly these languages are. As a result, research would further investigate morphological trends in the dialectal manifestation of youth especially in the processes of lexicon development.

According to Encyclopedia Britannica, language refers to the symbol used for the tenacity of the method of communication. When a person knows a language, individuals using the same language will communicate and be understood. Evidence indicates that students use morphological information to infer and thus bootstrap vocabulary production for unfamiliar words. There is, however, no concerted

effort comparable to that put into practice to coordinate our lexicons and their connection with syntax. It is a remarkable fact that a person arranges together different terms, forms declaration to make known his thoughts for which he knows that in the type of society he belongs is acceptable and traditional.

A consumer of language can exploit the linguistic properties accordingly in search of belonging. In the everyday conversations of young people and also in their posts and feed on social networking sites, the occurrence of linguistic exploitation in terms of the lexicon used is quite well observed. Several networking sites are available, such as Facebook, and others are new words have appeared. Students use words such as “lodi” which means idol and “werpa” which means power, which are utilized by students to communicate to others. Clearly, the standard of morphological pattern of words is gradually routing, due to new, budding words that are clearly adapted and exploited by language users.

Language evolution has noticeably affected how we think about or view the world around us. Human beings do not exist as generally understood in the objective world alone or in the world of social interaction but are very much at the mercy of the unique language that has become the medium of expression for their society.

Therefore, it only seems important to cultivate knowledge among the speakers of the apposite linguistic pattern in order to avoid linguistic misunderstanding of the morphological features of language. Also, knowledge of the incidence of morphological transformation prevalent among Criminology students in Cebu also helps the school establish learning experience that is considered advantageous to the students' linguistic level.

The researchers are committed to discovering the potential origins of the coined terms in order for language users to perfectly generate and comprehend words they have never encountered before. As a Major in English and Criminologists, Peace Educator who have joined the teaching term of the Commission of Higher Education, the researchers hope to seek knowledge about this linguistic transition in order to facilitate language learning and encourage responsiveness to language metamorphosis.

This study aims to analyze the morphological pattern of the social media posts among college students who are currently enrolled Academic Year 2020-2021 2nd Semester who are also living in Region X, Philippines. Specifically, it aims to find answer the following questions: First, what are the common lexical contents of criminology students' social media posts? Second, what morphological processes do these new terms undergo? Third, what is the morphological transformation of the social media post among Criminology students?

ATHEORITICAL STANCE

To avoid bias in the compilation and analysis of data, the researchers deferred the use of any hypotheses and examination associated with literature and studies (Polit&Beck2008). To help the argument and to authenticate the account of the use of relevant literature is later taken into account. The researchers, however have ample readings of which they agree these do not obstruct analysis by inciting prejudices.

PHILOSOPHICAL STANCE

The metaphysical foundations of the thesis are ontology, axiology, and epistemology. This implies that without a control factor, the researchers attempt to understand the nature of social experiences in their natural environments (Burn&Grove2010).

The naturalistic methods of investigation deal with the problem of human complexity by specifically exploring it, according to Polit and Beck (2013). The emphasis on the intrinsic depth of human beings in naturalistic cultures, their capacity to form and construct their own experience, and the belief that truth is a composite of realities. To fully understand the problem, the following philosophies are helpful.

Postmodernism articulates that the universe is in a condition of everlasting incompleteness and unfinished permanence. It encourages the notion of pluralism, that a reality has many ways of understanding, and many truths. From a postmodern viewpoint, knowledge, with all its complexities, ambiguity and paradoxes, is formulated from a local perspective. Awareness is therefore linked, and all realities are woven into local linguistic looms (Ismiati, 2021).

Constructivism is a philosophical point of view on the essence of knowledge. In particular, it demonstrates an epistemological position, in line with Gosling et.al (2012). Constructivism centered on how human beings communicate with a certain circumstance or phenomenon between their perceptions and their ideas. He found his relationship in relation to how humans are set up to evolve mentally through their genetic make-up.

Ontology is the metaphysical study of being and the essence of becoming. Existence, or fact, as well as the categories and relationships of being. In the metaphysical context, the principal thread of ontology is the analysis of entities and their relations. The theory of objects, such as concrete and abstract, actual and nonexistent, real and ideal, autonomous and dependent and their connections, relationships, deception, relationships. In fact, language's dynamism contributes to the transformation of linguistic characteristics. The criminology students of Region 10 appear to create new terms out of existing words and attach various meanings to the derived word. This language transition began a few years ago and eventually gives rise to creative and sophisticated language that language users spontaneously learn (Bauer & I.S.P. Nation, 2020). This theory is applicable to the present study because the researchers would like to determine the common lexical contents among the students in their morphological transformation of social media posts (Archibald & Libben, 2018).

Epistemology, specifically with regard to its method, validity and scope, is the philosophy of science. Inquiry into what is differentiated from opinion by justified conviction. Almost all students want to understand the world in which they live, and many of them create ideas of different kind to help them make sense of it. However, since many facets of the universe defy simple explanation, most students are likely at some stage to abandon their efforts and satisfy themselves with whatever degree of comprehension they have managed to achieve. In the present study, this theory is essential for evaluating and understanding. The morphological transformation of the social media posts among students provides the researchers with an understanding of whether traditional morphological processes are being followed or whether a new word forming process is being created (Körtvélyessy & Štekauer, 2020).

Axiology, in the widest sense of terms, is the metaphysical study of goodness, or meaning. In the creation and philosophy of the objectivity of value and of value judgments, the term implies subjectivity, the relation of value to reality is of fundamental importance. In addition, this concept is applicable to the present study because it is necessary for students to learn and understand meaningfully the awareness of linguistic actions. Appropriate to their level of interests as a means of self-improvement, commitment and dedicated to adhering in and out of the classroom to the standard language rules.

Methodologically, this research uses the method of textual analysis and guarantees the outcome by structuring the subject of the study, which is the students' social media post, through its methodology. The inductive approach would be used to achieve a deeper understanding of the students' transition in terms of their social media posts' morphological characteristics. The researchers explore the reason why students apply morphological transformation and impact to those morphological transformation to the local linguists (Jeulin, 2021).

This research, rhetorically, is written in the third person. The researchers see that the study is fundamentally timely and important as the occurrence of morphological change is very mutual not only in everyday conversations, but also in social media channels that are considered students' outlets of speech. This period of time, the students are fun of posting messages through social media because modalities of teaching-learning process is totally changed. As educators, they ensure that the rights and identities of learners who serve as the data are kept secret and secured. In addition, since they are language lovers by action, the researchers are involved and enthusiastic researchers for the study. In this research, they discover essential linguistic possibilities that are considered useful in promoting the students' learning process.

Design

The study utilizes the use of textual analysis as qualitative method (Creswell, 2021). For different research methods used to define, analyze and understand texts, textual analysis is a broad concept. From its literal sense to the sub-text, symbolism, perceptions and beliefs it reveals, all sorts of knowledge can be gleaned from a text. It is an investigation of phenomena, typically in an in-depth and holistic fashion, through the collection of rich narrative materials using a flexible research design (MonkeyLearn, n. d.). Qualitative analysis makes it possible to examine meanings that are due to the actions, attitude and contact of individuals with others. The goal of this research is to recognize words that have morphological transformation and to explore the reasons why students do this and the effect of this morphological transformation.

Locale

The study is conducted in the Region X specifically in one of the community colleges. The researchers chose the place of implementation because this is where they serve as educators. The study is conducted within the Academic Year 2020-2021, 2nd Semester.

Informants

The informants are criminology students who are 18 years of age and above and all of them are consumers of social media particularly Facebook and Messenger. In terms of morphological pattern, they are also chosen as they have social media posts with transformation. However, as part of this research, students are taken into consideration. If it is possible to observe his/her previous post on social media, the researchers may ask the permission of each informant. If he grants permission to observe his/her previous position, an informant may undergo the analysis.

Sources of Data

The research is going to use the Criminology students' previous social media posts. In particular, the researchers study the linguistic behaviors that occur naturally in context, the researchers observe in discerning the morphological transformation of the social media post among the college criminology students. With the permission of the informants, the researchers only follow the previous posts and not use any particular instrument in collecting the data. The researchers evaluate the post on social media that acts as the study's data source. Since the method of performing the paper is textual review, the validity of observing the posts also be taken into account.

Data Analysis

The researchers ensure that the data are handled with the most acceptable actions after the data collection procedures. The researchers may make use of textual analysis to ensure that the collected data is properly handled. One of the most common modes of analysis employed in qualitative research is textual analysis. As a way to gain insights and information from data collected, researchers use textual analysis. This approach establishes deeper appreciation of the study community or circumstance. The researchers can recognize large trends by using textual analysis to cultivate data, which allows more granular research and analysis to be piloted. Information produced from the data are gathered and the research is not pre-set it.

The researchers, using textual analysis as a data analysis tool, begins with the collection of data from which the outputs of communication through social media posts are extracted in this study. In this analysis, the researchers pick the lines from social media posts that involve the morphological transformation of words used in the post. The next step is to acquire the necessary texts for the study. Following data collection, the next step is to classify and evaluate the instances of unique deviant lexical material embedded in social media posts by the researchers. The researchers can ensure that the contents are not misunderstood and are free or biased by the researchers. The researchers then identify the patterns in communication content that the social media post relates to in this report. In terms of word formation, the investigators equate the lexical material with traditional morphological processes. Finally, the researchers define and examine the trends among Criminology students of the morphological transformation of social media messages. The concerned group discussion responds to protocols from the interview guide. The responses of the centered group discussion support the collective data analysis. The goal of the researchers is to investigate the reason and effects of this morphological transformation. The collected data from the interviewed are analyzed for interpretation.

Ethical Considerations

A. Benefits

In the conduct of the study, the researchers take the authorization to foster ethicality into account by ethical considerations through performing the study and recognizing that the researchers deal with human subjects. In the study of the morphological transformation of social media posts among the Criminology, the researchers annotate any ethical issue.

B. Risk

The possibility of private information leakage is possible, but the researchers establish trust with the informants and promote the integrity of research to protect the informants' rights. In addition, informants' rights, needs, beliefs, reputations, and identities are kept secret. Throughout the conduct of the research, the obscurity of the identities of the students are prioritized.

C. Content, Comprehension, and Documentation of Informed Consent

In order to safeguard the rights of the informants in this study, an informed consent is given to the informants, along with a discussion of the purpose of the research study, indicating the approval of the panel of evaluators. Participation in a research sample, fully and freely agreed upon, would be confirmed by the signature of the informants in the consent form.

The provision given in the consent form is set out below.

Participant Status

It can be clearly known that the analysis is all about science, as only the transformation of morphological characteristics is gathered and no treatment is applied to them. The data to be obtained would only be for testing purposes. The informants: Criminology students and local linguists, in particular, provides information in an online mode through group discussion.

Study Goal

Before conducting the study, the researchers provide the informants with the intent of the study through online. The observation of their social media post to let them know that they are selected as the study informants and, luckily, they help to develop the school programs to provide students with linguistic opportunities.

Type of Data

The morphological transformation of social media posts among the Criminology students' data are collected. The students' previous posts are taken into account as long as they allow the researchers to pick their posts and review them.

Procedures

The collection of data from social networking sites includes the verbal generation process.

For morphological transformation, the posts are tested and for common themes are analyzed. In the evaluation of the posts, textual analyses are used. Selecting the types of post are analyzed, obtaining the required post and evaluating the deviant lexicons in the posts are part of this form of study.

Nature of Commitment

By posting on social media, the researchers consider the most suitable time that the informants provide data. The researchers review only the previous post on the social media site of the informants, provided that they give the researchers their permission to do so.

Sponsorship

This paper is part of researchers' idea and the researchers can cover the expenses incurred.

The researchers also ensure that all the expenditures in this study allow researchers to finish and obtain relevant materials that can be used as a guide for the researchers.

Participant Selection

The informants are 18 years of age and above and all of them are social media consumers. They are also picked as they have transformational social media messages. However, students and local linguists are taken into account as part of the study. The researchers ask the permission of each informant if it is possible to observe his previous post on social media. An informant can undergo the examination if he grants permission to observe his previous position.

Potential Risks

In the conduct of the research, particularly during the observation of social media posts that are carried online, there are no defined major danger. The researchers do their best to keep the informants physically and mentally in their most comfortable moments to prevent stress. On the interview guide protocol via online mode, the informants give details.

Alternatives

The best way to perform the research is a textual review of the morphological transformation of learners in their social media messages, so alternative procedures are not applicable. The researchers investigate the potential knowledge of the participants that is closely linked to the students' current experiences. The local linguists improve the students' information based on morphological transformation.

Compensation

No reward is given to the informants, but as part of their insights, local linguists are given a token of appreciation.

Confidentiality Pledge

Anonymity is guaranteed to preserve the identity of informants by not revealing their names in the manuscript so that they can really communicate their opinions, feelings, and emotions about this study intended for them. In one way or another, their posts would not be biased.

Voluntary Consent

Informants' participation is all voluntary and no amount of pressure would be applied. As the research is performed on social media sites, no private details are revealed to the investigation. Information that they share is considered genuine and true for the points that they are considered to be the study informants.

Right to Withdraw and Withhold Information

If they like, the informants have the right to withhold information and withdraw from involvement if they want to quit. They also have the right at any time to choose whether or not their place is taken under study.

D. Authorization to Access Private Information

The permission to access private information is included in the consent form, and only the researchers reveal private information. Similarly, it is kept secret to reveal private details that cause harm to the reputation of the information or the family.

E. Confidentiality Procedure

Procedures for secrecy are initiated where anonymity is difficult to obtain. It is a secure guarantee that any information given by participants are distributed freely in a manner that classifies them and not be made available to anyone (Polite & Beck, 2018).

Unless the researchers have expressly given permission to share, any study information exchanged with strangers or with individuals known to the participants. The following are the measures the researchers take to ensure that confidentiality violations are not possible. First, the researchers pick the students as informants and identify them as appropriate and timely relevant to the report. Provided

that they are allowed the researchers to do so, the researchers observe the students' previous posts. As the analysis progressed for the privacy of the participants, the researchers maintain the identification of details in the locked file. On a need-to-know basis, limiting access to identifying information to a small number of individuals. No identifying information are inserted into computer files by the researchers. After that, all classifying data are destroyed as soon as possible.

E. Debriefing, Communications and Referrals

At the conclusion of a mission time of operation, debriefing literally involves questioning or instructing. In science, debriefing refers to a dialogue that occurs after the research has been done between the researchers and informants. Debriefing is going to have many purposes. Basically, it is an opportunity for the informants to ask questions and for the researchers to thank the informants in addition to explaining the interpretation of the morphological transformation of the informants in their social media posts for contributing further and thoroughly expounding the study. It is a method in which the researchers are “justified” deception, and informants are then debriefed at the conclusion of the study by following ethical research protocols to justify the deception to them and try to remove any harm that can reduce psychological damage by carefully phrasing questions, by holding debriefing meetings that are allowing informants to ask questions after data collection.

F. Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest in this analysis is arisen. In the publishing of this research study and its use. The researcher is the main author and his colleague is collaborator of the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Display 1. The common lexical contents of criminology students' social media posts such as Facebook.

Newly Formed Word	Number of Times Appeared on Social Media	Rank
#ATM	Eight hundred thirty-two	Fourth
China oil	Nine hundred thirty-seven	Second
Haggardo Versoza	Three hundred eleven	Ninth
Lavarn Japan	Five hundred thirty-five	Seven
Macorona virus	One thousand thirty-five	First
Quaranteam	Seven hundred twenty-two	Fifth
Sakalam	Four hundred seventy-two	Eighth
Stress Drilon	Six hundred thirty-one	Sixth
Haggardo Versoza	Ninety-eight	Tenth
WFH	Eight hundred ninety-nine	Third

Display 1 shows the common lexical contents posted on the social media particularly Facebook and Messenger are: Macorona virus, China oil, WFH, #ATM, Quaranteam, Stress Drilon, Lavarn Japan, Sakalam, Haggardo Versoza and Haggardo Versoza. “Macorona virus”, is an obvious choice, topping the chart with 1, 035 number of times appearance on the different posts. As the pandemic reach its peak, criminology students become attached with their social media accounts considering the constraint of movement (Rehm & Declerck, 2018).

Display 2. **The morphological processes do these new terms undergo.**

Newly Formed Word	Morphological Process
#ATM	Non-Concatenative
China oil	Stress Placement and Tone

Haggardo Versoza	Stress Placement and Tone
Lavarn Japan	Stress Placement and Tone
Macorona virus	Stress Placement and Tone
Quaranteam	Incorporation
Sakalam	Suppletion
Stress Drilon	Stress Placement and Tone
Webinar	Incorporation
WFH	Non-Concatenative

Display 2. Based on the Kinds of Morphological Process (Lynch, 2021), it is the process where the words adjusted to conform a certain context. Simply put, there is the process of changing the words' form and function in order to fit a certain context, and at some point, to the extent of changing the meaning and/or grammatical function.

Non-Concatenative. It involves interchanging the internal properties of morphemes are alternated. In this process, the root word and the new words resemble each other semantically. These are the following words who underwent Non-Concatenative: #ATM and WFH. This type of Non-Concatenative falls under the category of *deletion*, a process in which all or part of the root is reduplicated (# + ATM- At The Moment and WFH to Work from Home).

Under the Stress Placement and Tone are the following words: China Oil, Haggardo Versoza, Lavarn Japan, Macorona Virus and Stress Drilon. Notice the function and meaning of a word, it can be changed by making adjustments to its stress and tone.

Incorporation maintains the grammatical function in the process of combining one word with another. This include the words Quaranteam and Webinar. Obviously, it is a combination of two words like Quarantine + Team and Web + Seminar ("What to know about morphological processes," 2020).

Suppletion is a type of morpheme where words resulted from a morphological process and do resemble each other phonologically. Sakalam is under this.

Display 3. The morphological transformation of the social media post among criminology students.

Original Word	Original Meaning	Function and	Morphological Process Involved	New Term	New Function and Intended Meaning
#	Number sign, hash, or pound sign		Acronym	#ATM	#-Hashtag
ATM	At the present time				At The Moment
Sana all	An expression showing envy, resentment or hopefulness		Mixed Language	China oil	Denotes exaggeration
Haggard	Exhausted		Eponym	Haggardo Versoza	Denotes exhaustion, fatigue and stressed
Fighting	To strive, to overcome		Mixed Language	Lavarn Japan	Means keeping forward
Corona Virus	SARS-CoV-2 virus		Mixed Language	Macorona virus	Getting infected

				Feeling high
Quarantine Team	Place of isolation Come together	Blending	Quaranteam	Group Isolation
Malakas	Strong	Anadrome	Sakalam	Strength
Stress	Emotional strain or tension	Eponym	Stress Drilon	Ces Drilon
Web Seminar	System on the internet Conference or meeting	Blending	Webinar	Online gathering
Work From Home	Work being done remotely	Acronym	WFH	The work is temporarily transferred at home

Display 3. Word transformation is indeed evolving (Ado & Bidin, 2017). Colorful and catchy newly coined words keep on popping online with the meaning either retained or changed. For instance, acronyms like “#ATM” to emphasize activities done at the present time and “WFH” referring to work done at home instead of at the office. The term “sakalam” from the word “malakas” which is an example of anadrome where the words are spelled reversely. One for whom or which something is or is believed to be named after is what we called as *eponym* (School of Literature, Languages and Linguistics, 2022). “Haggardo Versoza” named after Gardo Versoza and “Chess Drilon” for Ces Drilon fall under this category. The phrase “Quaranteam” and “Webinar” are blended words. It is formed by combining two separate words with different meanings to form a new one. Oftentimes, the creation is to describe a new invention or phenomenon that combines the definitions or traits of two existing things. Lastly, mixed languages are languages in which whole component parts are from distinct language families or branches combined. (Williams, 2020). China oil, Lavarn Japan, and Macorona virus is an example for this. This type has been called “intertwined” languages primarily rooted out from the pandemic.

CONCLUSION

From the facts gathered in the conduction of the study, a conclusion is drawn that the morphological transformation of the Facebook posts among Criminology students is an insignia of an upsurge of a new language. To understand this new language, people must understand the basic components of a new language which are the terms. Morphological awareness can help students comprehend new words and ultimately produce new words as well. According to Chomsky in his transformational-generative morphology, humans have the ability to perfectly produce and understand words they have never heard before if they already understand the roots. Therefore, the common lexicons are presented for the filled comprehension of the transformed words that have permeated the social media platform.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are offered based on the findings of the study.

1. Provide activities among criminology students where they can fully express themselves without being categorized and discriminated for the language they used.
2. Since criminology students are the future peace maker, they must fulfill adequate linguistics in understanding a language and to communicate successfully.
3. One way of solving investigation the knowledge on morphological post should be given emphasis for societal and professional relevance.

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