
Prefixes And It's Remarkable Syntactic Realms In Grammar

By

Fouad Adel Khalaf

University of Tikrit – College of Arts

1. 1 ABSTRACT

This paper deals with affixes in general and prefixes in particular. Prefixes can be considered as one of the most important field in grammar, for they alter either the meaning, position or use of the word to which they are affixed

In this paper, we tackle prefixes from syntactic, semantic and phonological point of view in order to reduce the gap of information one might have in his knowledge of this subject.

Throughout this research we find no piece of information being neglected concerning the topic subject; hence this paper is full of detailed information covering every angle related to the topic. Moreover, we lay out simple and clear examples of words or sentences, which can be described as expressive and enable the reader to understand what he reads easily. Finally, we hope that our work is good enough to be appreciated, although many genius linguists have dealt with this subject comprehensively; but we are trying to put forward all our knowledge, ability and skills between the hands, and we sure that the appreciation would be judicious.

1.2Word-Formation Processes:

Quirk (1985:1520) admits that there is what we call word-formation processes in the English language. They are divided into four types, the first two of which can be referred to as Affixation. These processes are: -

- A- Prefixation.
- B- Suffixation.
- C- Conversion.
- D- Compounds.

Those processes will be explained after clarifying the term Affixation.

1.3 Affixation.

Affixation is defined as the derived form and (the form which results when a process or operation is applied) consists of the open and (the form that it is applied to) plus a new for native which has been added or affixed to it.(Mathews, 1974: 124).

1.4 What is meant by Affix?

“An affix is a grammatical element combined with a word, stem or phrase that produces derived and inflected forms. There are three types of affixes – prefixes, infixes and suffixes”.(The New Encyclopedia Britannica, 1990; 127)

A second definition for affixes is a useful general term for the recurrent formative morphemes of words other than roots. “Affixes may be divided formally into three major positional classes according to the position they may occupy in relation to the root morpheme: prefix, infix and suffix”.(Robins, 1975: 200)

A third definition for affixes is that, they may be defined as “ bound morphemes which combine with other morphemes (free or bound, according to the language) to form closed sets which are parallel from set to set”.(Al-Ani, 1992; 10)

Affixes are limited in number in a language and are usually classified into three types depending on their position with reference to the root or stem of the word.

A- Prefixes:

Robins (1975;200) states those which are added to the beginning of the root or stem and they always precede the root or other prefixes in English words; e.g.:

- 1-re – as in receive, remove.
- 2-de – as in deceive, deranged.
- 3-con – as in conceive, contain.
- 4-per – as in perceive, perform.
- 5-pre – as in preconceive, preempt.

B – Suffixes:

Robins (1975;200) poses those which always follow a root or a stem; e.g :

1- the plural formatives:

-s (/ -s / , / -z / , / -iz /)

-s as in : / -s / as in books.

/ -z / as in boys.

/ -iz / as in dishes.

-en (/ ə n /) etc.

-en as in ox oxen (plural formative).

2- The paradigm affixes –ing(/ -ɪŋ /), -t (/ -t /).

-d -ed(/ -t / , / -d / , / -ɪd /) etc.

-ing as / -ɪŋ / as in working.

-t as / -t / as in slept.

-d as / -t / as in walked.

-ed as / -d / as in played.

-ed as / -ɪd / as in wanted.

There are other kinds of suffixes, but there is no room for them in this survey.

C – Infixes:

Robins (1975;200) admits that they are affixes that appear within the consonant and vowel sequences of root forms. They occupy a fixed position that are stable by reference to the consonants and vowels.

Infixes are less commonly met with, and are not found in English apart from one made of analysis of plurals like “feet, men”

D- Superfixes:

AL-Ani (1992:11) states that this kind of affix is almost hidden from the phonological, more sight of ordinary readers. It is specifically a super segmental affix which converts a word from one lexical category to another and is mainly derivational in the sense that it derives a new lexical category, e.g.:

record (n) record (v). Superfixing is used extensively in English .

1.5 Several Features Of Affixes In General: -

As far as we have explained some kinds of affixes, you are deducing the following:

1-" It is usual that some affixes have far more frequent productive use than others". (Quirk, 1985; 1539).

2- There are often significant relations between affixes especially antonym, as with pre- and post- , -full and -less.(Ibid.).

3- Affixes vary greatly in the degree to which their presence in a word correlates with a definite semantic function ascribable to the word as a whole. (Robins, 1975; 262).

4- Affixes are limited in number, though their numbers vary from language to another, and they may be exhaustively listed. (Ibid.).

5- Some affixes serve to differentiate the paradigm forms of variable words containing a common root, other recur in the formation of a large number of polymorphemic words together with a large number of different root morphemes. (Ibid.)

6- The number of affixes in words in addition to the root or roots, varies considerably in different languages.(Ibid.)

1.6 What is mean by Stem?

Quirk (1985;1519) states, the stem is the form of a word stripped of all affixes that are recognizable as such in English; example: man, person, apply, boy.

1.7 Word-Formation Processes Again:

Quirk (1985;1519) admits, After we have made a good deal of information specifically, now it is acceptable to manifest the meaning of each word-formation process separately:

1- Prefixation: It means putting a prefix in front of the base, sometimes with, and more usually without a change of word class; example: pre + determine.

2- Suffixation: It means putting a suffixes after the base, sometimes without, but more usually with a change of word class; example: friend + less.

3- Conversion: It means assigning the base to a different word class with no change of form; example: (we shall) carpet (the room) verb form noun.

4- Compounding: It means adding one base to another, such that usually the one placed in front in some sense subcategorizes the one that follows, example: black bird, armchair; but contrast for example, compounds such as "heavy-weight".

A word-formation rule usually differs from a syntactic rule in one important respect: It is limited productivity, in the sense that not all words which result from the application of the rule are acceptable; they are freely acceptable only when they have gained an institutional currency in the language.

2. PREFIXATION AND PREFIXES

2.1 Prefixation Rule:

As a rule, prefixation does not alter the word class of the base. (Quirk, 1983; 431). Yet there are exceptions. The prefix (a-) for example, from which adjectives such as, asleep, astir and awash are formed. The prefixes that are used with a verb base (and this a rare class) like, de- , have a number of distinguishable meaning and are often in competition with " dis-" and " un-" when added to verbs, e.g. (deboost ,decapitate), and may subsequently be nominalized,e.g.: (decapitation).

Some prefixes may be used exclusively with a verb or an adjective base, such as the prefix “ de- “ (which has been already tackled) and some may be added and verbs and adjectives alike.

2.2 The Function Of Prefixation: -

Conlin (1961: 261 and 162) poses that suffixes are useful principally in the marking of word classes nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. They facilitate communication because they help the reader or listener identify the word as it is used. Prefixes, on the contrary, do not usually serve as structural signals. Their function is lexical. They change the meaning of the word or stem to which they are joined:

happy ----- unhappy.
connect ----- disconnect.
normal ----- abnormal.
market ----- supermarket.
weekly ----- biweekly.

One may quickly perceive, therefore, how the use of prefixes with many different words and stems enhances the flexibility and power of communication.

2.3 Lists Of Prefixes From An Etymological Point Of View: -

In the coming pages we study lists of prefixes, together with their meaning and illustration of their use. These lists – common Latin prefixes, Greek forms used as prefixes and English prefixes.

2.3.1 Table NO.1 Latin Prefixes

(Following Colin ,1961; 262.263) : -

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
ab -	from, away from	Abnormal Abduct
ad -	to, toward	Adhere Adjoin
ante -	before in time and place	Antedate Antecedent
bi -	Two	Bimonthly Bisect
circum -	Around	Circumnavigate Circumscribe
com -	With	Compassion Combat
contra -	Against	Contradict Contraband
de -	separation, negation reversal, descent	Degrade Dehydrate
dis -	away , separation negation, reversal	Disassemble Dishonest
ex -	out of, former	Excavate Ex-wife
extra -	outside, beyond extracurricular	Extrasensory
in -	in, into	Inflow Indoors
in -	Not	Insane Incorrect
inter -	between, among	Interscholastic Interfere
intra -	Within	Intramural Intravenous

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
intro -	inward, within	Introspection Introvert
non -	Not	Nonresident Nonessential
ob -	Against	Object Obstruct
per -	through, throughout	Perennial Perspire
post -	After	Postgraduate Postwar
pre -	Before	Prefix Prehistoric
pro -	in favor of, for, forward	Proslavery Promote
re-	back, again	Recall Rebuild
retro -	backwards	Retrograde Rretrospect
se -	aside, withdrawal	Secede Seclude
semi -	half	Semimonthly Semicircle
sub -	under	Submarine Subway
super -	over	Supersensitive Supersaturate
trans -	across, over, through	Transcontinental Transparent
ultra -	beyond	Ultraviolet Ultramodern

2.3.2 Table NO.2 Greek Prefixes and Combining Forms

(Following Colin ,1961; 263.265) :-

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
an -	not, without lacking	Anarchy Anhydrous
anti -	against, opposed to	Antibiotic Antifreeze
anthropo -	man, humanbeing	Anthropology Anthropomorphic
arch -	first, chief	Archbishop Architect
auto -	self, same	Autobiography Autosuggestion
bio -	Life	Biology Biochemistry
cata -	down, against	Catastrophe Catalog
chron -	Time	Chronometer Chronology
di -	Twice	Dichotomy Diatomic
epi-	on, to, against	Epigram Epiglottis
eu -	good, well	Eulogy Euphoria
hemi -	Half	Hemisphere Hemstitch
hetero-	different, other	Heterogeneous Heteronym
homo -	the same	Homogeneous
hyper -	Over	Hypersensitive Hypertension
hypo -	under	Hypodermic

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
meta -	among, after behind	Metaphysical Metamorphosis
micro -	very, small	Microscope Microcosm
mono -	one, alone	Monogram Monotone
neo -	New	Neologism
neuro -	Nerve	Neurology
pan -	All	Panacea
phil -	Loving	Philosophy
phon -	sound, voice	Phonology
photo -	Light	Photograph
poly -	much, many	Polychrome
para -	near, beyond	Parable
pseudo -	False	Pseudonym
syn -	with, together	Synchronize
tele -	Distant	Telephone

2.3.3 Table NO.3 English Prefixes

(Following Colin ,1961; 265.266) : -

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
a-	on, in, to, towards	Afoot Ashore
be-	about, around (intensifier)	Belay Befriend
by	secondary, outof the way	By way Byproduct
for-	away, offnegative	Forgive Forbid
fore -	front, aheadof time	Forefoot Foretell
mid -	middle	Midday
mis -	ill, wrong	Misapply

Prefix	Meaning	Illustration of use
out -	out, (a going beyond)	Outlast Outcast
over -	over, excess	Overthrow
self -	(reflexive), self	Self-defense
un-	not	Unfair
under -	under, of lesser degree	Undermine Underpay
up-	up, to a higher degree	Upstream Uplift
with -	separate, opposing	Withdraw Withstand

2.4 Functional Classification of Prefixes: -

Quirk (1985;1540) states the functional classification of Prefixes as :

2.4.1 Negative prefixes: -

1) a - (/ei/ or /æ/), “an” (especially before vowels), (‘lacking in’), ‘lack of’) combines with adjectives, as in some nouns (example: anhydrous).

Chiefly used in learned and scientific lexicon, some items have the main stress on the prefix:

(anarchy, atheist /ea/, atrophied /æ /).

2) Dis – ‘not’, ‘the converse of ‘ , combines with open class items including verbs, example:

(disobey, disloyal(ly), disorder (n.), disuse (n.), disunity, discontent (n.).

3) In – (and variants IL- before / I /. IM-before labials, IR- before / r / ‘not’ , ‘the converse of ‘ , combines with adjectives of French and Latin origin, and is less common than noun (inattention).

4) Non – ‘not’, combines (usually hyphenated) with nouns, adjectives, and open class adverbs, example:

(non-smoker, non-perishable, non-trivially).

5) Un – ‘not’, ‘ the converse of’, combines fairly freely with adjectives and participles, example:

(unfair, unwise, unforgettable, unassuming, unexpected).

2.4.2 Reversative or Privative Prefixes: -

1) De- (/ di: /)

(i) ' Reversing the action', combines fairly freely with (especially demominal) verbs and deverbal noun; example: - (decentralize, defrost, desecrate, de-escalate, denationalization).

(ii) 'Depriving of', combines fairly freely with verbs and deverbal nouns, example: - (denude, defraud).

2) Dis -(i) Reversing the action ,combines fairly freely with verbs, example: - (disconnect, disinfect, disown), in some cases with Privative force, as in (dishearten, disown).

(ii) 'Lacking', combines limitedly with denominal adjectives, example: (disinterested, discolored) also verb discolor refers to unwelcome change of color.

3)Un-(i) Reversing the action, combines fairly freely with verbs, example:(undo, untie, unzip, unpack, unwrap).

(ii) Depriving of, releasing from 'degrading' combines limitedly with nouns, turning them in to verbs, thus, example: (unseat, unhorse, unmask, unman).Quirk (1985;1541).

2.4.3 Pejorative Prefixes: -

1) Mal – 'badly', 'bad', combines with verbs, participles, adjectives, and abstract nouns, example: (maltreat, malformed, malodorous, malfunction, malnutrition).

2) Mis – 'wrongly', astray, combines freely with nouns and adjectives, example: (miscalculate, mishear, misfire, mislead (ing); misconduct (n.)).Quirk (1985;1541).

2.4.4 Prefixes Of Degree Or Size : -

1) Arch – 'supreme', 'most', combines freely with nouns, chiefly with human reference (example: archduke, archbishop), and usually with pejorative effect example: (arch-enemy, arch-fascist, arch-hypocrite) not the hyphens with these relatively ad hoc items; 'archangel' is an isolated case, with pronunciation / a:k / and normally with the prefix stressed.

2) Co-'joint'(ly),on equal footing, combines freely with nouns and verbs,example:(co-education, co-heir, co- pilot, co-religionist, cohabit,

cooperate, also co-operate, co-opt, coordinate, coexist) , in some nouns, the prefix is stressed (co-driver).

3) Hyper- 'extreme' (sometimes pejorative 'too'), combines freely with adjectives, example: (hypersensitive, hypercritical, hyperactive)

4) Mini- 'little', combines freely (and especially informally) with nouns; example: (mini-market, mini-skirt, mini-cab), a rather contrived contrast with 'maxi-' ; 'large' (maxi- length) and less commonly 'midi-', 'medium'. In ad hoc collocation; the stress is often on the base: (they started a mini(-) factory).

5) Out – 'surpassing', combines freely with nouns and intransitive verbs to form transitive verbs, example: (outnumber, outclass, outdistance, outgrow, outrun, outlive).

6) Over – 'excessive (hence pejorative)'; combines freely with verbs and adjectives, example: (overeat, overestimate, overreact, overplay, oversimplify, overwork, overconfident, overdressed). In more locative senses, from above, it combines fairly freely with verbs; example: (overflow, overshadow).

7) Sub – 'below', combines with adjectives; example: (subconscious, subnormal).

8) Super – 'more than', very special, combines freely with adjectives, example: (supernatural, supersensitive) and nouns (with prefix stressed; supermarket, superman, etc.); on top, hierarchically superior, combines less freely with verbs (super-impose) and nouns (superstructure).

9) Sur – 'over and above', combines with nouns and takes the stress, example: (surcharge, surtax)

10) Ultra – 'extreme', beyond, combines freely with adjectives (hyperbolas like ultra-modern, ultra-conservative), technical items like (ultrasonic, ultraviolet), and with nouns in technical usage, sometimes with prefix stressed (ultramicroscopic, ultrasound, ultracentrifuge).

11) Under – 'too little', combines freely with verbs and "-ed" participles, example: (undercharge, underestimate, underplay, underprivileged), and corresponding nouns (underprovision); with the meaning 'subordinate' it combines less commonly

with nouns, example: (undermanager). Quirk (1985;1542-43)

2.4.5 Prefixes of Orientation and Attitude: -

1) Anti – (/ænti/) ‘against’, combines freely with denominal adjectives, example: (anti-social, anti-clerical, anti- clockwise), as in:

(anti-missile, anti-war).

2) Contra – ‘opposite’, ‘contrasting’, combines with nouns, verbs and denominal adjectives, example: (contradistinction, contraindicate, contractual), with stress on the prefix, (contraflow), nouns, used of traffic.

3) Counter – ‘against’, ‘in opposition to’ combines with verbs, abstract nouns and denominal adjectives, example: (counter-espionage, counter-clockwise), but often with main stress on the prefix; example: (counteract also counteract).

4) pro – (/ prəʊ /)

(i) ‘for’, on the side of, combines freely with denominal adjectives and nouns (mainly to from premodifying adjectives), example: (pro-communist, prpo-American, pro-student).

(ii) ‘on behalf of ‘, ‘deputizing for’, combine fairly freely with nouns; example: (pro-consul, pro-provost).Quirk (1985;1544)

2.4.6 Locative prefixes: -

Those, like spatial prepositions, may extend their meaning metaphorically to abstract spheres:

1- “Fore-”, front part of, front, combines fairly freely with nouns such as: (forearm, foreshore, foreground, foreleg, forename).

2- “Inter-”, between, among, combines freely with denominal adjectives, verbs and nouns; example (international, interlinear, inter-continental, intermarry, interweave). With nouns, the product is chiefly used in premodification:

(“the” inter-war “years”, “an” inter-school “event”) ,but also (with initial stress), (interplay (n.)).

3- “Sub-”, under, combines fairly freely with adjectives, verbs and nouns, example: (subnormal, sublet, subdivide, subcontract, subsection, subway).

4- “Super-”, above, combines rather infrequently with nouns, example: (superstructure, superscript).

5- "Trans-", across, from one place to another, combines freely with demoninal adjectives and with verbs, example: (transatlantic, trans-siberian; transplant, transship); with initial stress while it was already present in adopted nouns: (transport). Quirk (1985;1544).

2.4.7 Prefixes of Time and Order: -

1) Ex – 'former', combines fairly with (chiefly) human nouns; example: (ex-president, ex-serviceman, ex-husband), the more general use of (ex-) in borrowed words with totally unstressed (ex-); (expect), and with voicing before a vowel (examine / gz /).

2) Fore – 'before', combines fairly with verbs and nouns; example: (foretell, forewarn, foreshadow, foreknowledge, foreplay, foretaste).

3) Post – (/ pəʊst/) 'after', combines fairly with nouns (mainly as premodifiers) and denominal adjectives, example: (post-war, post-election, post-classical), borrowed words; example: (postpone, etc.). Attributively there is often a stress switch (as with pre-, below), postwar (euphoria).

4) Pre – (/pri: /) 'before', in advance, combines freely with nouns (mainly as premodifiers) and denominal adjectives, example: (pre-war, pre-school (children), pre-19th century, pre-marital).

More rarely, it combines with verbs, such as (pre-heat, pre-cook). The more learned competing prefix (ante -), ' before' is found almost entirely in borrowed and neo-classical words; example: (antediluvian, antenatal, etc.). Unstressed / pri / is in borrowed words, example: (prevent, etc.). When pre- items are attributive, there is often a stress switch as in (pre-war), (prices).

5) re – (/ ri:/) ' again', 'back', combines with verbs and deverbal nouns such as (rebuild, reclaim, re-use, recycle, re-evaluate; re-analysis) . Occasionally, it combines with an adjective to yield a verb, example: (renew). Quirk (1985;1545).

2.4.8 Neo-Classical Items: -

2.4.8.1 Number Prefixes: -

Items that are originally Greek or Latin are widely used as the first constituent in a range of expressions dealing with numerical values. It is arguable that at least some should be treated as combining forms, i.e. as the first constituent in the class of compounds dealt with in the native analogues: (single-sex “schools”, double-barrelled, three-sided). But since some arbitrariness is involved in any case, we opt for treatment as prefixes, not least because – unlike constituents entering in to compounds – they are a regularly recurring and relatively closed set, with semantic affinities between them. The following combine fairly freely, especially in specialized terminology, with nouns and denominal adjectives:

1. Bi - , Di – ‘two’, as in (biplane, bicycle, biped, bilateral, bifocal, bilingual, dichotomy, diode, dioxide, digraph, divalent).
2. poly - , multi – “many”, as in (polyglot, polygon, polygamy, polyandry, polytechnic) . multi- items are used chiefly in premodification: (multi-storey “building”, multiform, multi-lateral, multiracial, multi-purpose).
3. Semi- , Demi- (less productive, Homi- “chiefly scientific), “half”, as in (semi circle, semi vowel, semi-conscious, semi-automatic, demigod, demijohn, demisemiquaver, demitasse; hemisphere).
4. Tri- ‘three’, as in (tripod, tricycle, trimester, tripartite, trinomial).
5. Uni-, Mono-, ‘one’, as in (unisex, univalve, unilateral, unidirectional, monorail, monoplane, monosyllabic). Quirk (1985;1546).

2.4.8.2 Miscellaneous Neo-Classical Prefixes: -

As it is mentioned in (2.4.8.1), it is possible to regard such items as combining - forms, effecting compounds. Compare “self” in (self-denial), ‘deputy’ in (deputy-director), ‘under’ in (under-secretary), etc.

- 1- Auto - ‘self’, combines freely with nouns and adjectives, example: (Autosuggestion, autobiography, automation ,autocrat).
- 2- Extra – ‘exceptionally’, combines freely if informally with adjectives; sometimes written as a separate word, example: (She was extra affectionate that day).

- 3- Neo – ‘new’, ‘revived’, combines with nouns and adjectives, especially with reference to political, artistic, etc. movements: (Neo-classicism, neo-Gothic, neo-Nazi).
- 4- Pan – ‘old’, chiefly in learned words like (paleography, Paleolithic).
- 5- Pan-‘all’, word-wide’, combines especially with nouns premodifying adjectives with reference to world-wide or continent-wide activities, example: (pan-African, pan- Anglican, pan-American).
- 6- Proto – ‘first’, original’, combines with nouns and adjectives such as (proto-Germanic, prototype).
- 7- Tele – ‘distant’, combines freely with classical bases to form nouns, example: (telescope, telegram, telephone); new items are largely concerned with electronic communication: (television, telecommunications).
- 8- Vice – ‘deputy’, combines freely with nouns, as in (vice-chairman, vice-admiral, vice-president). Quirk (1985;1546).

2.4.9 Conversion Prefixes: -

Conlin(1961; 266) gives the following prefixes, with limited productivity in chiefly literary use, differing from those in other sections in having little discrete semantic value. Their chief function being to effect a conversion of the base from one word class to another. In the respect they resemble suffixes in their conversion role. They are unstressed.

1- A – (/ə/), combines chiefly with verbs to yield predicative adjectives; example: (asleep, astride, awash, a tremble, aglow, aglow, aloud). The meaning is similar to that of the progressive, example: (Her cheeks were aglow)(Her cheeks were glowing).

2- Be – (i) Functions along with (-ed) to turn noun bases in to adjectives with somewhat more intensified force (wearing or surrounded by) than is suggested by (-ed) alone; example: (bewigged, bespectacled, befogged, bedewed).

(ii) Intensifies the force of verbs: (bedazzle, bestir).

(iii) Combines with nouns to yield transitive verbs, example: (bewitch, bedevil, befriend). Most such be-items have a pejorative or facetious tone.

3- En-,Em- before/p/,/b/, combines chiefly with nouns to yield verbs (to put into, to provide with), example: (enmesh, empower, endanger, enflame, entrain, embitter).Quirk (1985;1547).

2.5 Hyphenation of Prefixes: -

Ordinarily, prefixes are not hyphenated to the stem of the word or to the word itself. There are a few exceptions, however, as follows:

1- When the last letter of the prefix is the same as the first letter of the stem or word:

Co - operate Semi- independent.
Pre - election Pre- establish.
Re - enter Micro- organism.

2- When confusion would otherwise result between similar words of different meaning:

Re - cover----- “to put on a new cover”
Recover ----- “to get well”
Re - act ----- “to perform again “
React ----- “to respond to a stimulus”
Re-form ----- “to form again”
Reform -----“ to change one’s character

3- When the prefix “ self- “ is used:

Self - control Self – respect
Self - evident Self – service
Self - educated Self – taught

4- When the prefix “Pan “ is used before a proper nouns or adjectives:

Pan - American Pan - Slavism
Pan - Germanic Pan - Islamism

5- When the prefix “ Ex-“ is used before a noun:

ex – wife ex – soldier
ex – governor ex – president

Quirk (1985;1547).

3.Negative and Related Prefixes

Jespersen (1961;472) admits English has three important negative prefixes “un-“ , “in-“ with its variants according to the following sound, “il- “ “im- “ and “ir- “ and “an- “ or “a- “.

They are used as prefixes with a different value, and this discussion would tackle particularly the negative “ in- “.

3.1 Negative “in- “ . : -

According to Latin sound – laws “in – “ became “il – “ before “L”, “im” before the labials “b, p and m”, and “ir – “ before “ r ”. this differentiation is soon not only in loanwords, but also in new-formations on English soil. In former times forms like impossible etc. were sometimes used, but they have now all been and adjusted according to the above rules. Jespersen (1961;473)

3.1.1 New Formations: -

New – formations with the negative “in-“ (and its by forms) most of them from adjectives, but also many form sibs, chiefly predicative next word. There are also a few verbs in “ in-“ most of which have been derived from adjectives in “in-“.

New – formation are: (Inability, inaptitude, inexactitude; imperception, irreognition, inaccurate, inattentive, inconceivable, invaluable, illegible, immeasurable, impecunious, impracticable, irrealizable, irredeemable (and many others in “irr-“)

3.1.2 Stressed and Unstressed “in-“ :-

Most words with negative “in-“ are stressed according to the rules of prefixes, which we will discuss in section four. Thus, in many words the prefix is unstressed, or has secondary stress.

Full stress on the prefix always occurs in some loanwords, e.g.: (ignorance, ---nt, impudence, --nt, impious, impotence, --nt, incest, infamous, infamy, injury, innocence, --nt, insolence, --nt, and some long words in – ability coined on English such as (inadmissibility).

If the first syllable of the radical has full stress, the prefixes is generally unstressed, but the word may be pronounced with equal stress, example: (indefinite, irregular, or “ secondarily”, indefinite, irregular). In some

words the prefix is always unstressed, among them such common words as (ignore, immediate, immense, impatience, --nt, impossible ,incessant ,incongruous ,indifference,--nt, Indignant,innumerable, invisible).

With unstressed first syllable of the radical (often another prefix), “in-” (etc.) has generally secondary stress, example: (illegality, imperturbable, indescribable, inexhaustible, irredeemable, illegality, etc. Jespersen (1961;474)

3.1.3 Particular Case: -

“Infamous” has been separated from “famous” as in sound, so in sense; the negative of “famous” is now rather obscure or unknown (to fame).

Other example, in which the word with the prefix has been separated in sense from the simplex, are: (different, indifferent; pertinent, impertinent). Immaterial often is not “not material” (spiritual),but ‘unimportant’(what does not matter). Invaluable means priceless, very valuable, while the negative of valuable is worthless. Jespersen (1961;474)

4. Phonology and Prefixes

Quirk (1985; 1539) admits Phonology and Prefixes as following :

4.1 The Stress Case of Prefixes: -

Prefixes are usually unstressed in relation to the semantically weightier parts of words, but prefixes have secondary stress if:

- (i) They are disyllabic (example: inter-). or
- (ii) The base begins with an unstressed syllable (example: unat tractive), or
- (iii) They are “new” uses of old items, example: (pre--, re--,). But we have one general exception may be noted here; while many verbs have primary stress on the stem as in (she contrasted her child- hood on his), the stress is moved on to the prefix when they are converted into nouns, as in: (There is a contrast in meaning in the two uses of painter).

4.2 Fixed Stress Case of Prefixes: -

“The generalizations that can be made about the stress pattern of English are complicated by the mixed nature of English vocabulary, a basic core of Germanic words is surrounded by a much larger number of words from foreign languages (Notably French, Latin and Greek). Native words and early French adoptions tend to have the primary stress on the stem syllable and to keep it there, regardless of the affixes that word-formation may add(Fixed Stress)” (Quirk , 1985;. 1591) example:

Kingly ----->kingliness ----->unkingliness.

Passion ----->passionately----->dispassionate.

Stand -----> understand -----> misunderstand.

4.3 Conclusion:

Upon surveying almost the whole field of prefixes, I am struck by the numerous instances of this field of linguistics. If we look through the older prefixes and their uses, we see innumerable and especially in meaning, modification brought about by the addition of the prefix being generally vague, that it cannot be strictly defined. On the other hand, these prefixes which have been extremely popular in new-formations during the last century or two have one invariable form with regard to sound stress and each of them has one defined meaning.

Finally, this field can be looked at as one of the major pillars in the grammatical study of English language, whether for teachers or students who are interested in reading. This realm enriches one's store of knowledge syntactically, semantically and also phonologically.

Bibliography

- Al-Ani, Zainab(1992). Translating Foreign Terms into Arabic Approaches of The Iraqi Academy.
- Conlin, David (1961). Grammar for Written English.Printed in U.S.A.
- Harris, Zellig S.(1969). Structural Linguistics.U.S.A. University of Chicago Press.
- Jespersen, Otto(1961). A Modern English Grammar on Historical Principles. Part VI, morphology. Printed in G. Britain.
- Mathews, P.H.(1974). Morphology. G. Britain.
- The New Encyclopaedia Britannica. (1990) Volume '1', 15th Edition, byEncyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. U.S.A.
- Quirk, Randolph. (1983). A University Grammar of English.Printed in Hong Kong by Commonwealth Printing Press Ltd.
- Quirk, Randolph. (1985). A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language. Typist, Printed and bound in G. Britain, William Clowes Limited, Beccles and London.
- Robins, R.H. (1975). General Linguistics An Introductory Survey. 2nd Edition, G. Britain by William Clowesand Sons, Limited, London, Beccles and Colchester.

المستخلص

يتناول هذا البحث اللواصق عامه واللواصق في بداية الكلمات خاصة. وفي المقام الاول ، يمكن اعتبار اللواصق في بداية الكلمات واحده من اهم الحقول في النحو لانها تغير معنى او مكان او استخدام الكلمة التي تلتصق بها .

وفي هذا البحث تناولنا هذه اللواصق من وجهات نظر صوتيه ودلالية وتركيبية لكي تقلل من فجوة المعلومات والتي قد تكون موجوده في معرفة الفرد في هذا الموضوع . ومن خلال هذا البحث لم نجد اهمال لاي جزئية معرفية تتعلق بذات الموضوع، لذا فان البحث مليء بمعلومات تفصيلية تشمل كل الزوايا ذات العلاقة بالموضوع، مع ذلك ، فقد اوردنا امثله واضحه وبسيطه من الكلمات والجمل القابله للواصق على انها تعبيريه وتمكن القارئ من ان يفهم مايقراه بسلاسه.

واخيراً نأمل ان يكون عملنا هذا جيداً بما فيه الكفايه بالرغم من ان الكثير من اللغويون العباقره قد تعاملوا مع هذا الموضوع بشكل شامل ، ولكننا نعمل جاهدين في ان نضع معرفتنا وقدراتنا ومهارتنا بين ايديكم ونحن متأكدون بان التقييم سيكون حكيماً.