

## Derivational Nominal Suffixes In Selected Speech From Barack Obama

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**Abstract:** *This study aims to analyze derivational nominal suffixes in selected speech from Barack Obama. The official website of the White House President Barack Obama published the speech on 21 January 2009 and 3 October 2002. To determine the functions of the derivational suffixes using the theory proposed by Plag (2002) and the definitions of morpheme, morphological process, root, stem and base, and suffix were identified using the theory by Katamba (1993). This study identified the functions of derivational suffixes, which are Class Maintaining Suffixes and Class Changing Suffixes, and their word structures. The data collected in this study was explained in words using qualitative methods. The findings showed that there are 15 data on the functions of derivational suffixes found in the selected speech from Barack Obama, 5 data classified as a class maintaining derivational suffix and 10 data are kind of class-changing derivational suffixes.*

### INTRODUCTION

A language is a form of written communication used by the people of a particular nation or region for speaking and writing. People will struggle to express their thoughts, opinions, and emotions without language. One of the most widely spoken languages in the world is English. English is a widely used language for communication in all social, cultural, and economic fields. Therefore, after learning their mother tongue, most countries make English their first language of study.

According to Bauer (1983:3), morphology is the field of linguistics that focuses on the internal structure of word forms. It is concerned with a language's word construction categories and rules. Bauer (2003:3) defines morphology as the study of word formation. This shows that the study of morphology explains the formation of morphemes and words in languages. A morpheme is the smallest meaningful lexical component in a language.

Morphology is known to be divided into two main categories, namely derivational morphology and inflectional morphology. Derivational is the process of creating new words by changing part of speech or the meaning attached to the base. Meanwhile, inflectional is defined as the process of forming a new word form without changing the meaning or part of speech of the base to which the affixes are connected. A derivational suffix is a type of morphological derivation in which a root word is added to a suffix. It gives an existing word a new meaning,

typically altering its part of speech. There are four types of suffixes. According to Plag (2018:87), namely nominal suffixes, adverbial suffixes, verbal suffixes, and adjectival suffixes.

One of the written texts that contain derivational suffixes is speech. Speech is the ability to convey ideas and feelings through vocalizations and body language. In human life, speech helps people get the essential points and effectively convey their message. This study focuses on the derivational suffixes found in selected speech from Obama. Derivational was chosen as the topic of this study because it is interesting to examine the process of word formation and how words can acquire different meanings by adding suffixes. This derivational suffixes research is interesting because Obama is very famous. He is a former American politician who led the United States as the 44th president from 2009 to 2017. His speech is very famous, and usually, his speech is eagerly awaited by the public. The study was investigated to identify the functions of derivational suffixes and to analyze the word structures of derived nouns found in the selected speech from Obama. Understanding derivational suffixes helps enhance comprehension of word structure and advance a person's writing abilities.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

In this study, data collection applied the documentation method because the data was taken from public documents. Because the data was taken from the official website of the White House President Barack Obama. There are several steps in collecting data here: first, access the official website of the White House President Barack Obama <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/blog/2009/01/21/presidentBarack-obamas-inaugural-address>. Second, read the selected speech carefully, and the speech was read starting from the first page up to the last page, to find out the words contained derivational suffixes. Derivational suffixes found in the utterances were analyzed, identified, underlined, and written down using note-taking and recording techniques.

It was decided to employ a qualitative approach to analyze it. In addition, a qualitative approach is used as an analytical tool to distinguish the identification of the functions derivational suffixes found in the selected speech from Barack Obama and the analysis of the word structures found in the selected speech from Barack Obama. The data that was taken from the official website of The White House President Barack Obama were analyzed based on the theory proposed by Plag (2002). Second, describe the functions of derivational suffixes using the theory proposed by Plag (2002), and the definition of morpheme, morphological process, root, stem and base, and suffix were identified by the theory proposed by Katamba (1993). The data analysis is presented in this paper by using informal methods. The informal method explains the findings and analysis, such as the functions of derivational suffixes, and determines the word structures.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Class Maintaining Derivational Morpheme**

#### **Class Maintaining Suffix**

##### **a. Suffix {-ship}**

(3-1) In Washington, they call this the **Ownership Society**, but what it really means is - you're on your own.

According to the data above, the word in bold as ownership is generated by a derivational process derived from the noun base owner and appended to the suffix {-ship}. The attachment

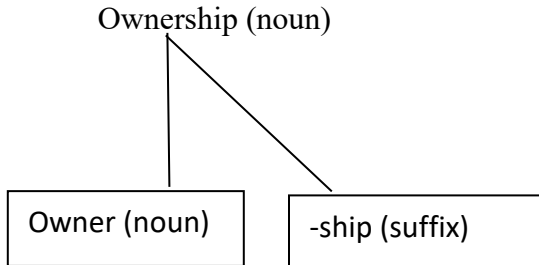
to this suffix is accomplished through a morphophonemic process of continual addition and does not modify the root word class.

The suffix {-ship} denotes a person's status, position, or situation. The meaning of the nominalizing affixes of the derived noun ownership, according to the data above, is the act, state, or right of possessing something. The table and graphic Citizen (noun) -ship (suffix) below show the derivational process and constituent structure of those derived nouns :

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix {-ship}

Class Maintaining	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Noun into noun	Owner	Ownership	In Washington, they call this the <b>Ownership</b> Society, but what it really means is - you're on your own.

The Creation of a New Lexeme using the Suffix {-ship}



b. Suffix {-dom}

(3-2) The history of Africa is a history of ancient kingdoms and great traditions; the story of people fighting to be free from colonial rule; the heroism of not only of great men like Nkrumah and Kenyatta and Mandela, but also ordinary people who endured great hardship, from Ghana to South Africa, to secure self-determination in the face of great odds.

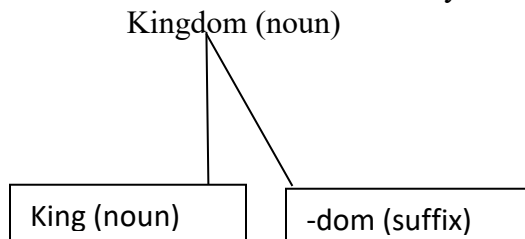
Based on the data presented above. The term in bold, Kingdom, is generated by a derivational process. It is a new lexeme derived from the noun root king, with the appended suffix {-dom}. The addition of this suffix does not affect the root word class. The suffix {-dom} denotes a domain or condition. According to the information provided above, the meaning of the nominalizing affixes of the derived noun kingdom is a domain ruled by a king or queen. The table and graphic below show the derivational process and constituent structure of those derived nouns:

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix {-dom}

Class Maintaining	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Noun into noun	King	Kingdom	The history of Africa is a history of ancient <b>kingdoms</b> and great traditions; the story of people fighting to be free from colonial rule; the heroism of not only of great men like Nkrumah and Kenyatta and Mandela, but also ordinary people who endured great hardship, from Ghana to South Africa, to secure self-

		determination in the face of great odds.
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#### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



#### c. Suffix {-ocracy}

(3-3) Now is the time to make real the promises of **democracy**.

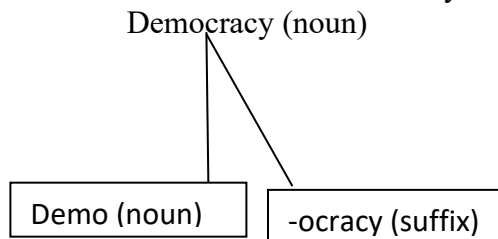
According to the data above, the word in bold as democracy is generated by a derivational process. It is a new lexeme created from the noun base demo with the suffix {-ocracy}. The attachment to this suffix is accomplished through the morphophonemic process of vowel reduction and does not affect the grammatical class of the base.

The suffix {-ocracy} is used to turn a noun into a noun by attaching the base of the word and creating a new lexeme. The derived noun democracy means a system of government by the entire population. The table depicts the process of derivational affixes, and the resulting noun may be seen in the tree diagram below :

#### The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix {-ocracy}

Class Maintaining	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Noun into noun	Demo	Democracy	Now is the time to make real the promises of <b>democracy</b> .

#### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



#### d. Suffix {-ism}

(3-4) The instruments with which we meet them may be new. But those values upon which our success depends - honesty and hard work, courage and fair play, tolerance and curiosity, loyalty and **patriotism** - these things are old.

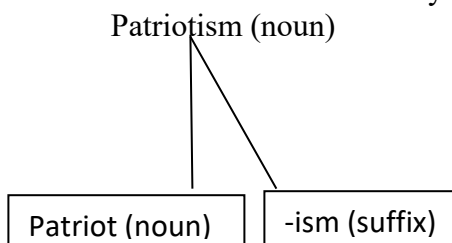
According to the data above, the word in bold as patriotism is generated by a derivational process. It is a new lexeme developed from the noun base patriot with the suffix {-ism}. The addition of this suffix does not affect the grammatical class of the base.

Suffix {-ism} signifies a system or doctrine used to form nouns into nouns. The derived noun patriotism refers to the feeling of love, devotion, and attachment to one's nation.

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ism}*

Class Maintaining	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Noun into noun	Patriot	Patriotism	The instruments with which we meet them may be new. But those values upon which our success depends - honesty and hard work, courage and fair play, tolerance and curiosity, loyalty and <b>patriotism</b> - these things are old.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



Based on the examination of classes that retain prefixes with a noun basis, the suffix *[-ism]* was also discovered in the speech. Based on the definition of the nominalizing suffix. The suffix -ism denotes system or doctrine.

e. Suffix *{-ing}*

(3-5) Let's finish the fight with Bin Laden and al-Qaeda, through effective, coordinated intelligence, and a shutting down of the financial networks that support terrorism, and a homeland security program that involves more than color-coded **warnings**.

According to the data above, the word in bold as warnings are generated by a derivational process. It is a new lexeme developed from the noun base war with the suffix *{-ing}*. The addition of this suffix does not affect the grammatical class of the base.

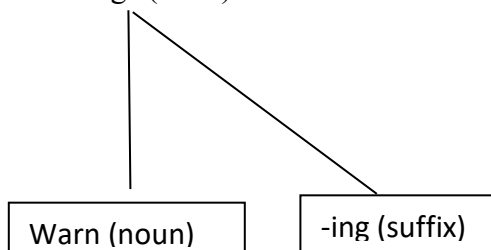
Suffix *{-ing}* signifies as "one belonging to," "of the kind of," or "one descended from," or sometimes having a small force, and is used to form nouns into nouns. The derived noun warnings refer to a statement or incident that signals a potentially impending danger, trouble, or unpleasant scenario.

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ing}*

Class Maintaining	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Noun into noun	War	Warnings	Let's finish the fight with Bin Laden and al-Qaeda, through effective, coordinated intelligence, and a shutting down of the financial networks that support terrorism, and a homeland security program that involves more than color-coded <b>warnings</b> .

### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Warnings (noun)



Based on the examination of classes that retain prefixes with a noun basis, the suffix *{-ing}* was also discovered in the speech. Based on the definition of the nominalizing suffix. The suffix *{-ing}* denotes “one belonging to,” “of the kind of,” or “one descended from,” or sometimes having a diminutive force.

### Class Changing Derivational Suffix

Deverbal Noun

f. Suffix *{-ation}*

(3-6) I thank President Bush for his service to our nation, as well as the generosity and **cooperation** he has shown throughout this transition.

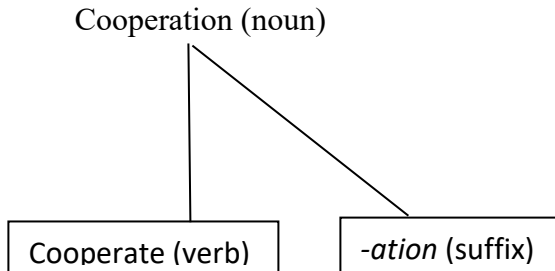
The word cooperation is generated through a derivational process based on preceding facts. New lexemes generated from the verb base generate and appended to the suffix *{-ation}*. The addition of this suffix changes the grammatical class of the word from verb to noun. The attachment to suffixes in derived nouns is analyzed through the morphophonemic process of vowel and constant addition.

The suffix *{-ation}* denotes a state, action, or institution. The data were used to determine the meaning of nominalizing affixes of derived nouns. Cooperation refers to the process of working together towards a common goal, generation. The table and tree diagram below shows the derivational process and constituent structure of those derived nouns :

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ation}*

Class changing	Base	New lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Cooperate	Cooperation	I thank President Bush for his service to our nation, as well as the generosity and <b>cooperation</b> he has shown throughout this transition.

### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



g. Suffix  $\{-er\}$

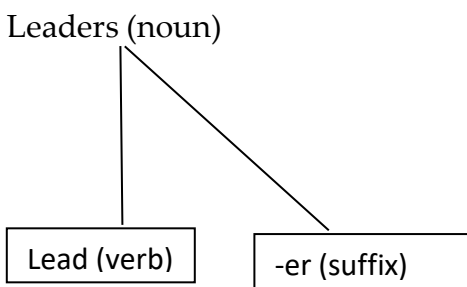
(3-7) You will decide if your **leaders** will be held accountable, or if you will look the other way.

Because the suffix  $[-er]$  changes the class or category of a verb into a noun, the words in bold belong to derivational nouns. Leaders, and suffixes  $\{-er\}$  all affect the meaning of the base. The presence of inflectional suffixes  $\{-s\}$  on word leaders gives the plural form meaning. This suffix is attached to derived noun consumers via the morphophonemic process of vowel reduction. The suffix  $\{-er\}$  has a generic agentive and instrumental meaning. Based on the definition of the nominalizing affix.

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix  $\{-er\}$

Class changing	Base	New lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Lead	Leaders	You will decide if your <b>leaders</b> will be held accountable, or if you will look the other way.

### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



h. Suffix  $\{-ment\}$

(3-8) The question we ask today is not whether our **government** is too big or too small, but whether it works - whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified.

The suffix  $\{-ment\}$  is used in the derivation process. The underlying morpheme from the terms government is changed. The word's grammatical class also changes from verb to noun. The suffix  $\{-ment\}$  denotes a state or action. The meaning of the nominalizing affixes of the derived

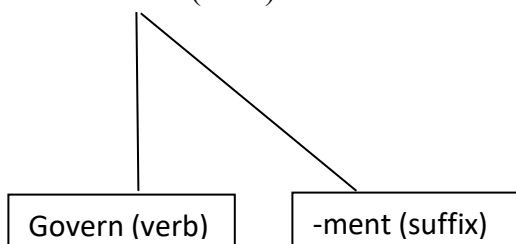
nouns government is the state of being govern.

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ment}*

Class changing	Base	New lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Govern	Government	The question we ask today is not whether our <b>government</b> is too big or too small, but whether it works - whether it helps families find jobs at a decent wage, care they can afford, a retirement that is dignified.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Government (noun)



i. Suffix *{-ant}*

(3-9) In addition, we know that the more information the public is provided, the easier it will be for your Kenyan brothers and sisters out in the villages to evaluate whether they are being treated fairly by their public **servants** or not.

The word servants is generated by a derivational process based on the following data. It is a new lexeme generated from the verb root serve and linked to the suffix *{-ant}*. The addition of this suffix transforms the word's grammatical class from verb to noun.

The suffix *{-ant}* has a generic agentive and instrumental meaning. The meaning of the derived noun nominalizing affixes is that a servant is a person who does chores for others, particularly one who works in a household on domestic duties or as a personal attendant. The table and figure show the derivational process and the constituent structure of those derived nouns.

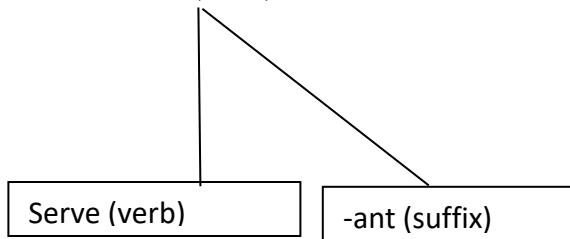
The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ant}*

Class changing	Base	New lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Serve	Servant	In addition, we know that the more information the public is provided, the easier it will be for your Kenyan brothers and sisters out in the villages to evaluate whether they are being treated fairly by their public <b>servants</b> or not.



The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Servant (noun)



j. Suffix *{-ion}*

(3-10) Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the **Emancipation** Proclamation.

According to the data above, the procedures of derivational suffixes by attaching the suffix *{-ion}* after the bases generate new lexemes corresponding to various word classes with the base. The bases of the verb in this example are emancipate. After the suffix *-ion* is added, they become emancipation.

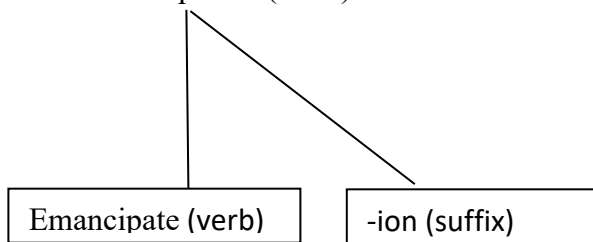
The suffix *{-ion}* is used to create nouns. The bases available are from the verb classes. The suffix *{-ion}* means action or process. These derivational steps are depicted in the table and tree diagram structure below.

The Forming of New Lexeme by Suffix *{-ion}*

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Emancipate	Emancipation	Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the <b>Emancipation</b> Proclamation.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Emancipation (noun)



k. Suffix *{-y}*

(3-11) We vigorously enforce a nonproliferation **treaty**, and that former enemies and current allies like Russia safeguard and ultimately eliminate their stores of nuclear material, and that nations like Pakistan and India never use the terrible weapons already in their possession,

and that the arms merchants in our own country stop feeding the countless wars that rage across the globe.

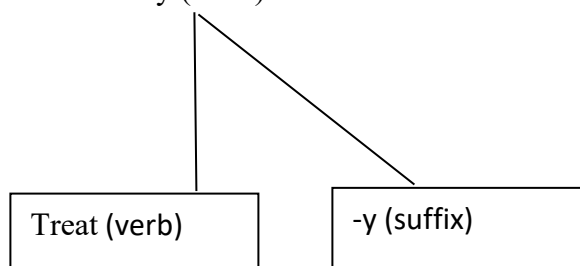
Based on the data presented above. The suffix  $\{-y\}$  turns a verb into a noun. The words treat and count belong to the verb class; however, the addition of the suffix  $\{-y\}$  changes the grammatical class of the word. The process of deriving nouns also results in creating a new lexeme. This suffix is attached via a morphophonemic process of continual addition.

A suffix  $\{-y\}$  is required to generate a noun from a verb whose meaning is similar to or covered by. In this context, treaty refers to a formally concluded and accepted agreement between countries, while country refers to a nation with its own government that occupies a specific territory. The process of derivational can be seen in the table and tree diagram below:

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Treat	Treaty	We vigorously enforce a nonproliferation <b>treaty</b> , and that former enemies and current allies like Russia safeguard and ultimately eliminate their stores of nuclear material, and that nations like Pakistan and India never use the terrible weapons already in their possession, and that the arms merchants in our own country stop feeding the countless wars that rage across the globe.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Treaty (noun)



1. Suffix {-age}

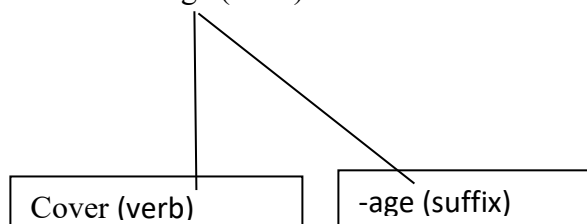
(3-12) The President's latest proposal that does little to bring down cost or guarantee **coverage** falls into this category.

The bold terms in coverage and marriage are produced using a derivational procedure based on the data above. They are new lexemes derived from the verb base cover and marry with the suffix {-age}. Grammatical word classes are shifting from verb to noun. This suffix is attached to derived noun storage by the morphophonemic process of vowel reduction. **The suffix {-age} converts a verb into a noun by connecting the base to the word and creating a new lexeme. In this context, coverage refers to how anything interacts with or pertains to something else.** The process of derivational affix is shown in the table and tree diagram below :

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Verb into noun	Cover	Coverage	The President's latest proposal that does little to bring down cost or guarantee <b>coverage</b> falls into this category.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Coverage (noun)



Deadjectival Noun

m. Suffix {-ness}

(3-13) This note was a promise that all men — yes, Black men as well as white men — would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of **happiness**.

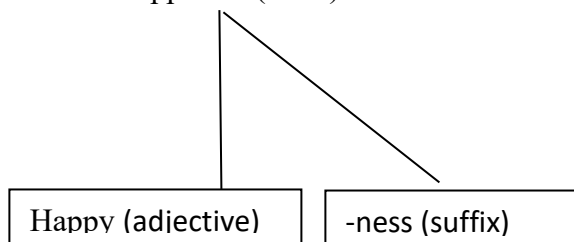
Based on the data above, it can be seen that the bold word, as in happiness, can be formed because of the derivational process. It is a new lexeme that comes from the adjective base happy, which is attached to the suffix {-ness}. The attachment process changes the grammatical classes of the base adjective to become a noun. Suffix {-ness} forms a noun that is derived from an adjective. The meaning of the suffix {-ness} is state or quality. The derived noun happiness means the state of being happy. The process of derivational affix is shown in the table and tree diagram below:

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Adjective into noun	Happy	Happiness	This note was a promise that all men — yes, Black men as

			well as white men — would be guaranteed the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of <b>happiness</b> .
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### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Happiness (noun)



n. Suffix  $\{-cy\}$

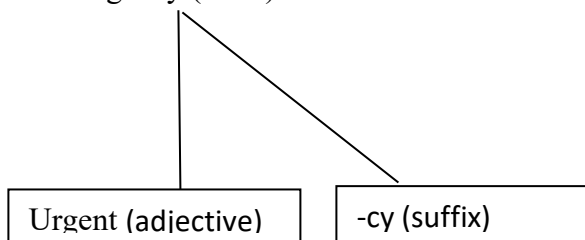
(3-14) We have also come to his hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce **urgency** of now.

Derivation via adding the suffix  $\{-cy\}$ . It alters the meaning of words such as urgency, militancy, legacy, efficiency, bankruptcy, decency, emergency, frequency, dependency, and currency. The word's grammatical class also shifts from adjective to noun. This suffix is attached via a morphophonemic process of continual reduction. The suffix  $\{-cy\}$  denotes the state. The table and figure below show those derived nouns' derivational process and constituent structure.

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Adjective into noun	Urgent	Urgency	We have also come to his hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce <b>urgency</b> of now.

### The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram

Urgency (noun)



o. Suffix  $\{-th\}$

(3-15) For we know that our patchwork heritage is a **strength**, not a weakness.

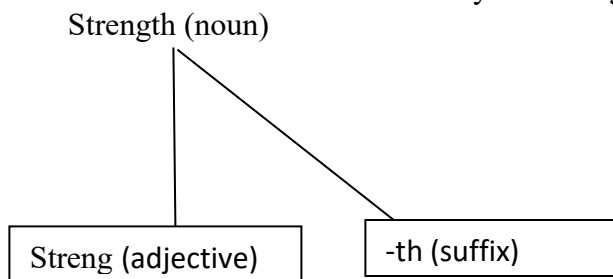
According to the data above, the processes of derivational affixes by attaching the suffix  $\{-th\}$  after the bases generate new lexemes that correspond to various word classes with the base. The

root forms of the adjective in this situation are strong. After the suffix *{-th}* is added, it becomes strength. This suffix is attached via a morphophonemic process of continual reduction.

The suffix *{-th}* is used to create nouns. The bases available are from the adjective class. The suffix *{-th}* denotes a state or condition. These derivational steps are depicted in the table and tree diagram structure below:

Class changing	Base	New Lexeme	Sentence
Adjective into noun	Strong	Strength	For we know that our patchwork heritage is a <b>strength</b> , not a weakness.

The Structure of New Lexeme by Tree Diagram



## CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding analysis of the derivational noun process, it is possible to deduce that derived nouns can be generated by attaching a prefix and suffix to a base word noun (class maintaining with noun base), verb (deverbal noun), and adjective (deadjectival noun). The types of noun suffixes can be found on the official website of The White House President Barack Obama in a speech entitled Obama's Inaugural Address and Speech Against the Iraq War. Suffixes such as *{-ship}*, *{-dom}*, *{-ocracy}*, *{-ism}*, and *{-ing}* are used to generate nouns derived from noun bases. Suffixes *{-ation}*, *{-er}*, *{-ment}*, *{-ant}*, *{-ion}*, *{-y}*, and *{-age}* are used to create nouns from verb bases. Lastly, suffixes *{-ness}*, *{-cy}*, and *{-th}* are utilized to produce nouns derived from adjective bases. Those suffixes have their own meaning as well. The derivational process involves either changing the base's meaning without changing the base's grammatical category (class maintaining) or changing both the meaning and the grammatical categories (class changing). The derived noun can also be depicted using a tree diagram to differentiate which suffix is classified as a derivational suffix.

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