

## MORPHOLOGICAL AND MORPHOPHONEMIC PROCESS OF ALAY VARIATION

**Dwi Astuti Wahyu Nurhayati**  
**IAIN Tulungagung**  
**Jl. Mayor Sujadi Timur 46 Tulungagung, Jawa Timur**  
**Email: [dwiastuti\\_76@yahoo.co.id](mailto:dwiastuti_76@yahoo.co.id)**

**Abstract:** This study reports the morphological and morphonemic process of Alay variation as a communication model among Indonesia youth. Data were analysed by using qualitative approach applying thematic framing. Data were obtained from facebook and online writing communication. The study reveals that morphological process of Alay Words consist of affixation and non-affixation. Affixation includes: Internal change, Infixation, and Core of vowel change. Non-Affixation includes: Borrowing, Coinage, Clipping, Acronym, Multiple process, Reduplication, and Combination Text. Morphophonemic process is categorized into Loss of Phonemes, Addition of Phonemes, and Simple Consonant Change. This way, Indonesia youth use this variety to code and mix among their group for internet account. Alay indicates an alternative in compressing words under 160 character-limit in text messages, ignoring standard rules as method of making strong password for internet discourse and expression of mood and feeling dealing intimate mood, such as: love, heart break, and relationship.

**Key-words:** morphological, morphophonemic process, allay.

As the technology moves faster and faster and the global world turns into smaller village, the significance of prestige of using new variety gets greater among the youth. Word as a part of language has important role to develop their varieties. The youth closely show their existence by using a new way to make a sentence but they don't really know where actually those words come from. Youth as the creator of new variety sometimes do not realize how this variety or allay is formed.

Nowdays, there are some new variety used by the youth, one of them is Alay variety. Everytime the youth get more and more new words unless they know the way it happens. The meaning of the new word form is influenced by the process of forming a word. This process is usually called word formation process which include morphological and morphophonemic process.

Some of the language users do not really understand about the process occurred to the words used by youth which were called Alay. That is way, from this problem; the researcher tries to show them up about morphological and morphophonemic process in order to create new words into this variety.

This research was conducted to define both morphological and morphophonemic process of alay word; to classify types of both morphological and morphophonemic process of alay words; explain every process and analyze them.

Morphological process is the process in which the language user combines one morpheme with another in order to form a word. Hence, morpheme plays a role as the smallest elements in the structure of the word. Morphological process is the process in which the language user combines one morpheme with another in order to form a word (Katamba, 2003). Morphological process is the process in which the language user combines one morpheme with another in order to form a word. Morphological process is a process combining two morphemes in finding new word. According to Nida, Morphology is the study of morphemes and their arrangements in forming words (1967:1). Hockett, (1958:177) says, "Morphology includes the stock or segmental morpheme and the ways in which words are built out of them." Katamba (1994:3) says that "morphology is study of internal structure."

From the explanation given above, it is clear that morphology is the study of word forming which also distinguish a word from morpheme. For example the word /recheck/ consists of two morphemes: /re-/ is a bound morpheme and *check* is a free morpheme. /Re-/ is dependent morpheme and can not stand alone if it should be combined with other independent morpheme. So we can conclude that morphological process is the process of morphological which includes the Affixation (Prefixation, Suffixation, Infixation ) Circumfixation, Modification and Reduplication. In other words, morphological process is a process combining two morphemes in finding new word. Two main types of morphological process are affixation and non affixation.

Affixation: Internal Change

*Suppletion: complete change of form*

Example: go + ed -went

Good +er – better

Good + est- best

There is core vowel change

Foot +es = feet

Tooth +es = teeth

*Zero Modification: There is no change*

Example: put + ed - put

Deer + es- deer

Normal-There is "No Case"

Act-action

Under morphological process

There is morphophonemic

Walk+ ed- walked

Open+ed-

*Non Affixation :*

**Compounding** is combining two words resulting new meaning. For example:

blackboard, Whitehouse

Phrase, it can be written in one word

black-board= any boards which is black

White-house= any boards which is black

M      N

**Blending:** Mixing, usually we combine the initial letter/combining two separate forms to reproduce a single term. Typically this is accomplished by taking only the beginning of one word and joining it to the end of other word such as brunch is derived from breakfast and lunch, motel= motor + hotel, bionic, infotainment, transistor.

**Borrowing:** that language has not term in the language itself or it can be said that one of the most common source s of new words in English is process simply labeled borrowing, that is taking over of words from other languages. For example: bamboo (Chinese), alcohol(Arabic), piano(Italia),yogurt (Turkish), boss (Dutch),zebra (Bantu),robot (chezch), tycoon (Japanese),lilac(Persian), croissant(French)

**Coinage:** a new term, brand/one of the least common processes of noun formation in English is s the invention of coinage, that is, the invention of totally new terms example: Teflon, nylon, Kodak, flossy, aspirin, zipper, kleenex, xerox

**Clipping:** to cut/to clip the initial part of the word comes gather the final part. Example: final part= ad- advertisement, photo-photograph, the beginning phone-telephone, both: flu-influenza

**Backformation:** is the formation of a word from one that looks like its derivative. It is usually derived from verbs. Ex: *teller* from *tell*, *reaper* from *reap*, *writer* form *write*, *singer* from *sing*, *emotion* from *emote*, *editor* from *edit*, There is form adjective into nouns: *greed* from *greedy*.

1. Conversion: converting part of speech without changing the form. Example:

My mother is watering the garden.

He is papering his walls.

Up this box, please!

Down that suitcase!

Empty your glass!

Dirty his room!

2. Acronym: the forming of new word using the initial letter of word. For example:

VIP (Very Important Person), RADAR (Radio Detecting and Ranging), CD (compact Disk), VCR (Video Cassette Recorder) Scuba (Self Contained Underwater breathing

Apparatus), ZIP (Zona Improvement Plan), PIN (Personal Identification Number), WAR (Women Against Rape), ATM (Automatic Teller Machine).

3. Multiple Process: Combination two processes in creation of a particular word. For example: the term *deli* visa process 'borrowing' delicatessen (German) and then 'clipping' that borrowed form. WASP attitude, the form WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant) has lost its capital letters and gained a suffix (-ish) in the derivation process.
4. Reduplication: It is a process of reduplicating either partial (partial reduplication) or entire (total reduplication) grammatical unity.  
Partial Reduplication can be difference of the initial consonant between the two elements, e.g. walkie-talkie, or medial, eg. criss-cross.  
Total Reduplication in English occurs only sporadically and it usually indicates intensity, e.g. goody-goody ('affectedly good'), din-din ('dinner').

### **Morphophonemic Process**

Morphophonemic process is the processes which study of the phonological realization of the allomorphs of the morphemes of a language or the study of the phonemic representation of morphemes in different environment.

Morphophonemic process it will be related to the affixation processes, there is a term called morphophonemic processes (Fromkin, 1990:141). The term morphophonemic processes is derived from two words, they are "morpheme" and "phoneme". The word Morphophonemic refers variation in the form of morphemes because of the influence phonetic factor or the study of this variation (Longman). According to Parera, the form change of morpheme is based on the sounds surround it which relates to the correlation between morphemes and phonemes (1982:42). It is also called morphophonemic changes.

According to Ramlan, morphophonemic refers the changes of phoneme as a result from the merging of one morpheme and another (2001:83). He also states that morphophonemic process is a process of form changes in which phoneme and morpheme are involved.

According to Dobrovolsky and Aronoff (1997:401), the Linguistic of morphology is the study of word structure. It seeks to characterize the system of categories and rules involved in word formation and interpretation. The psycholinguistic study of morphological processing seeks to understand how this word structure plays a role in language processing.

According to Dobrovolsky and Aronoff (1997:230), rules that account for alternations among allomorphs (morphophonemic alternations) are called morphophonemic rules.

### **Alay**

Alay (or 4L4Y, Anak Layangan or Anak Lebay) is a pop culture phenomenon in Indonesia. It is a stereotype describing something "tacky" and "cheesy" (norak or kampungan, only in Indonesian). The Alay culture phenomena spans over a wide array of styles in music, dress, and messaging. It has often been compared to that of the Jejemon phenomenon originating from the Philippines. Although, the former emerged much later and the latter was even admired in the west.

## Writing Style

The word "Alay" or "*Alayen*" has no exact meaning or obvious derivation. Various definitions of alay are offered when one types it on a search engine. One theory that is widely accepted is that "Alay" is a portmanteau of the term "Anak Layangan" (Indonesian: kite flyer), a pejorative describing someone having certain physical attributes from spending most of their time outside and getting sunburn (e.g. reddened hair and skin). Also kite is considered as cheap entertainment to the middle and lower class in modern Indonesia, stereotyping alay as a part of that class.

Due to the very low significance of the alay words in the Indonesian society (considered to be a minor social change), very little documentation of its emergence exists. Some believe the term was first coined by Sabda Ahessa, son of politician Sys NS. According to alay today, alay originated from the social networking site Friendster. As early as 2004, Indonesians, regardless of their social background, decorated their Friendster profile with leet texts, glitter banners, and close-up profile pictures. This social networking trend would later on be "condemned" by many towards the end of the decade when Facebook overpowered Friendster. However, the people who have Alay characteristics tend to use Facebook more than any other social media.

Alay text (Indonesian: *Tulisan alay*) is a form of the Indonesian language that has undergone "excessive leet transformation". Contrary to the popular belief that it is "destroying" the national language, grammatical standards are met in contrast to the modern Indonesian slang language. Similar to the jegebets, Alay texts offer an alternative in compressing words so that they are under the 160 character-limit in text messages, often to the point that they are impossible to read. Rules in capitalization are mostly ignored.

Alay variety may have been originated from the method of making strong passwords for internet accounts, which requires combinations of small and capital letters, numbers, as well as special characters. Normally, to keep the meaningful password and easy to remember, the password would consist of normal words, where some letters are capitalized or substituted with numbers (e.g. the letter with 4, the letter o with 0). Soon this becomes a habit in writing text in general, and improved with mixing English and Indonesian in one sentence.

In other words, confusing text that could not be understood properly and probably has no meaning (except for the writer), is also considered as Alay variety. This variety usually consist of a simple text. This type of text usually contains information of the writer's mood and feeling, it is also common that this variety contain the writer's own philosophy on a certain topic such as; love, heart break, and relationship.

According to The Jakarta Post, a high school student from East Java initiated the trend and shot to fame after her writings were discussed in forums and blogs not because they were great, but they were in "code". Her approach in writing attracted a lot of attention, with some people reproducing her writing in forums and blogs.

## METHOD

This study applies qualitative approach (Creswell, 2003); it is intended to categorize types of allay words based on morphological and morphophonemic process. Method of research is the steps or phases which are done by the researcher based on the purpose of

research.. The data in this research are provided by the listing alay terms used by the Indonesia youth to conduct communication among their group or friends. The sources of data in this research were taken from news in some website such as *The Jakarta Post*, *Kamus Bahasa Alay*, *Bahasa Alay Yang Disempurnakan (BAYD)*, *Facebook* reported since January until June 2013.

Analysis data is a process to find out and manage collected materials systematically to get the information and experience about data and communicate what it is found (Bogdan & Biklen 1992:79). The activity of analysis data includes: manage, arrange, classify, give code, and categorize in order to determine the theme (Moleong, 2009:281). The list of alay words consists of terms used in conversation or dialogue, simple sentences in informal conversation. Then the list of Alay words were classified into unit of category or its types based on morphological and morphophonemic process.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The study revealed two findings. *First*, morphological process of Alay Words include: **Affixation** with variations of internal change, infixation, and core of vowel change; **Non-Affixation** that varies on Borrowing, Coinage, Clipping, Acronym, Multiple process, Reduplication and Combination Text. In addition, morphophonemic process includes Loss of Phonemes, Addition of Phonemes and Simple Consonant Change.

### Morphological Process of Alay Variety

**Affixation.** Affixation process does not change the meaning of Alay's words.

#### Internal Change

- Kalian	+ z	: KlianZ
- Kan	+ z	: Kanz
- Manis	+ zt	: Maniezt,
- Manis	+ es	: Manies
- Keren	+ z	: Krenz
- Keren	+ t	: Krent
- Kamu	+ h	: Kamuh
- Kan	+ t	: Kant
- Kan	+ z	: Kanz
- Yuk	+ z	: Yukz
- Aku	+ wh	: Akuwh

**Infixation.** In this process, an infix /tj/ phoneme is inserted in the middle of the words. For examples,

- Loh	= lo-c-h	: Loch
- Deh	= de-c-h	: Dech,
- Gitu	= git-ch-u	: Gitchu
- Sih	= si-ec-h	: Siech
- Sih	= si-ey-h	: Sieyh

### **Core of vowel change**

#### ***The core vowel change of Verb***

In this process, the core vowel change of verbs (makan- Mumz, Mamz, mamam), the core vowel change includes /a/-/u/, /a/, a-a/ in these words below.

<b>EYD</b>	<b>Alay Word</b>
- Makan	Mumz, Mamz, mamam
- Main	Men

#### ***The core vowel change of Noun***

Another example the core vowel change of Noun could be seen in (rumah-Humz, Hozz, Uz), then the core vowel change include /u-hu/, u-o/,ua-u/ in these words as follows.

<b>EYD</b>	<b>Alay Word</b>
- Rumah	Humz, Hozz, Uz
- Telepon	Tilp
- Photo	Putu

#### ***Core vowel change of Adjective***

The next example the core vowel change of adjective could be seen in (imut-imoetz, Mutz, muetzz, moetz; Manis-Maniez; Maaf-Mu'uf, Muupz, Muuv), then the core vowel change include /u-oe/, u-u/,/u-ue/,/u-/oe) in these words as follows.

<b>EYD</b>	<b>Alay Word</b>
- Imut	Imoetz, Mutz, muetzz,moetz
- Manis	Maniez
- Maaf	Mu'uv, Muupz, Muuv

#### ***Core vowel change of Pronoun***

The last example the core vowel change of pronoun could be seen in (siapa-sppa, Cppa, Cpa, Spa; Kamu-kamuh, kamyu, Qmu, Kamuwh, kamooh, qamue; trus-rus, tyuz, tyz), then the core vowel change include /i-spp/,i cp-, i-cpp, i-sp;u-yu,h) in these words as follows

- Siapa	Sppa, Cppa, Cpa, Spa
- Kamu	Kamuh, Kamyu, Qmu, Kamuwh, Kammooh, qaMue
- Terus	Rus, Tyuz, Tyz

### **Non Affixation**

***Borrowing.*** In the borrowing process, Alay words are also taking over words from other language, these words were derived from English.

***Alay words were derived from English***

- Slow (English) = Wols, Woles
- Psycho (English) = Saiko
- Scam (English) = Sekem
- Love (English) = Luph
- Reply (English) = Repp
- Add (English)=Et

***Coinage***

A new term, brand or one of the least common process of noun formation in Alay variety is the invention of coinage, that is the invention of totally new terms. These terms are used in their conversation. Example:

- Baks (rokok)
- Yalsi (sial)
- Pundung (tersinggung)
- Rempong (ribet)
- Selon (pelan-pelan)
- Pertamina (pertama)
- Peres (bohong)
- Afgan (sadis)
- Sherina (serius)
- Boil (mobil)
- Ortez (oke)
- Pecah (hebat)
- Menel (centil)
- Lebeh (berlebihan)
- Kicep (diam)
- Jutex (Judes, galak)
- Fudul (pengen tau)

***Clipping.*** In this process, it clips the initial part of the word comes gather the final part, for examples:

- Nal (Kenal)
- Leh (Boleh)
- Ru (Baru)
- Ja (Aja)

***Acronym.*** The forming of new word using the initial letter of word are also occurred in Alay variety.



Example:

- Btw (By the way)
- Lol (Laugh out loud)
- Gj (Gak jelas)
- Kepo (Knowing every Particular Object)
- Kamseupay (Kampungan sekali udik payah)
- PHP (Pemberi harapan palsu)
- A.K.A (As Known As)
- GWS (Get well soon)
- Brb (Be right back)
- Cmiw (Correct Me If I Wrong)
- Cukstaw (Cukup tahu)
- Curcol (Curhat colongan)
- Mager (Malas gerak)
- Palbis (Paling bisa)

**Multiple Process.** The combination of two processes creates a particular word. For example,

Elo Gue End

It is a compounding from word “elo (kamu) + gue (aku) + end (putus). It is a popular expression in Twitter which functions only for a joke.

**Reduplication.** In Alay words, it also occurs reduplication (in this variety is a total reduplication or entire grammatical unity).

### Total Reduplication

unyu (lucu)                      □                      unyu-unyu      (*sangat lucu dan menggemaskan*)

### Combination Words (Number and Letter)

#### Number and Letter

It combines number and letters then it creates combination model.

Example:

1 = i / l              5 = s              6 = g              7 = j  
4 = a              0 = o              9 = 9              2 = to (ke)

A : N4nt1 50re ud 4d4 4cr4 g4? B : Gk, 'loM 4d4,  
B : M0 Nnt0n sm W 94k? B : Bwleh, y03ks..

Other examples of using number in Alay variety:

- Cepat: C4      - Setuju              : Se7  
- Sempat              : S4              - Tapa                      : T4  
- Chat              : C8              - Tempat                      : T4

- Maaf : 5f

### Capitalization

In this process, the capitalization is used to show their ideas. For examples,

TaKe mE 2 yOuR hEaRtZzz???? ???? (take me to your heart, bawa aku ke dalam hatimu)

cXnK qMoh tO cKiDnAAAAaaaAaAaaaa (sayang kamu tuh sakitnya...)

m\_tHa apOn YoH..... (minta ampun ya...)

I'm ReGrEeEeeEEeeEet nOw..... (aku menyesal sekarang)

### Morphophonemic Process of Alay Variation

Alay variation is categorized them into three main type of morphophonemic process as follows:

#### *Loss of Phonemes*

The phenomenon of loss of phonemes occurs when one or more phonemes that are present in the normal allomorph of a morpheme may simply be missing in another allomorph. The loss of a consonant phoneme is a common morphophonemic change. More examples are given below:

- Halo /halo/ : alow /alow/
- Belum /belum/ : lum /lum/
- Anak /anak/ : nax /nak/
- Tiap /tiap/ : Tyap /yap/
- Sudah /sudah/ : Dagh /dah/
- Lagi /lagi/ : Ghiy /giy/

Vowel phonemes may also be lost but less commonly than consonants. For example, the normal allomorph (-un) is lost. Then further change of unvoicing as /i/ and /ia/ as the arising vowel phoneme of the stem (-nya) and (apa) as in *punya*, *siapa*. It could be seen as follows.

- Punya /punya/ : Pya /piya/
- Siapa /siapa/ : Spa /sapa/

#### *Addition of Phonemes*

In this process /z/ phoneme is added in the end of word /n/. For examples,

- Keren /keren/ : Kerenz /kèrenz/
- Kan /kan/ : Kanz /kanz/

- Kalian /kalian/: Kalianz /kalianz/

The other example of addition, /w./ phoneme adds in the end of word /u/.

- Gitu /gitu/ : Gituw /gituw/
- Dulu /dulu/ : Duluw /Duluw/
- Kamu /kamu. : Kamuw /kamuw/
- Tau /tau/ : Taw /tauw/

### ***Simple Consonant Change***

In the first type of simple consonant change, /s/ phoneme changes into /z/.

Example:

- Manis /maniz/ : Maniz /maniez/
- Khusus /kusus/ : Khuzuz /kusuz/
- Habis /habis/ : Abizz /abiz/
- Pasti /pasti/ : Pzty /pazti/

The second type of the simple consonant change, /y/ phoneme changes into /i/

Example:

- Sayang /sayang/ : Saiank /saiang/
- Saya /saya/ : Saia /saia/
- Iya /iya : Ia /ia/
- Bisa /bisa/ : Bysaa /biysa/

The third type of consonant change, /k/ phoneme changes to /g/

Example:

- Tidak /tidak/ : Gagg /gag
- Masuk /masuk/ : Mzug /masug/
- Kok /kok/ : Kogg /kog/
- Kakak /kakak/ : kakagg /kakag/

### **CONCLUSION**

This study concluded that alay words develop as the youth communication occurs today as parts of culture development. Linguistically, the developmental process denotes the morphological or morphophonemic process of alay words include affixation and non-affixation. Affixation includes three processes: (1) Internal change, (2) Infixation, and (3) Core of vowel change. Non-Affixation comprises seven aspects: Borrowing, Coinage, Clipping, Acronym, Multiple process, Reduplication and Combination Text. In addition, morphophonemic process is categorized into three aspects: Loss of Phonemes, Addition of Phonemes, and Simple Consonant Change.

Alay variation is created by the creators or the users because of two reasons. First, Alay variety offer an alternative in compressing words under the 160 character-limit in text messages by ignoring standard rules as method of making strong password fro internet account. Second, they use Alay variety as their code is used to express mood and feeling

which usually writer's own philosophy on a certain topic such as; love, heart break, and relationship.

Alay words were created based on the users' style as they want to combine number, stress, size or whatever they want, which modify the words they have already created in order to make new word either the same or different from part of speech or meaning. The components words are definite to combine eventhough it breaks the rule of standard language of Bahasa Indonesia (EYD). It could be as one way for them to enhance their ceativity by experimenting the process of the text or words based on their style. Analyzing Alay words or text help us to understand the way and the meaning of Alay words which usually could be different syle among the creators. As language users, we should be sensitive to the linguistic phenomena around us.

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