

A STUDY OF LUNGUDA MORPHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

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Abstract

This paper attempts to examine the morphological processes that occur in lungu]a language. Three major processes have been identified namely affixation reduplication and modification and, we discovered that each of the processes has been sub-divided into part. Affixation is divided into prefixation and suffixation. While reduplication and modification are divided into complete and partita. The research accounted all this within the model of approach of Mathews (1993) and Abubakar (2000).

Introduction

The article discusses morphological processes in lungu]a. Greenberg (1963) classified lungu]a under Niger Congo Adamawa Easter No 10 others are 1. Tala Dadiya 2. Chanba dorofa 3. Kotop 4. Ilere 5. Mumuye 6. Dama nono 7. Yungur Mboir libo 8. Kan 9. Sen 10. Lungu]a 11. Fali 12. Nimbori it is spoken in Guyuk L.G.A, and Lamurde Local Government of Adamawa State, as well as Balanga L.G.A. of Gombe state.

Jamla (1996) and Newman (1970) stated that there are five dialects in the language namely: Guyuk dialect comprise: Wala-lungu]a of Balanga Gombe arah-teh, Bobini Guyuk, Dukul, Mada, Wawi, Porokayo, etc Chirin dialect comprise of Gundenyi, Falu, Walu, Lamza, Jiu, Gwalura, Gunda, Lokoro, Gugu Kwadadai, Banjiram and Sili. Thara dialect. Include: Pondiwe, Dangir, Kola. Kerau, Salbu and Thable Dele dialect. Comprise Dele of Gombe state Mamsirmi of Lamurde L.G.A. Bushikiri, Zakwan Burthi of Guyuk Local Government, Adamawa state. Gwanda- comprises. Gwanda and Swaku of Balanga Local Government, Gombe.

In terms of socio-cultural activities of the people Gwalasha (1994) and Zuwazikka (2005) stated that marriage ceremony and death rate are few of the socio-cultural institutions in Lungu]a while Agriculture, blacksmithing, rug weaving are few of socio-economic activities pursued by the people of Lungu]a. Cerin dialects, Gwanda dialect, Dele dialect and there a dialect.

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Literature Review

Morphology as a branch of literature is defines in various ways by many linguists. According to a Dictionary of linguistics and phonetics defines morphology as branch of grammer which studies the structure or forms of words, primarily through the use fields. The study of inflection inflectional morphology and of word formation (lexical or derivation morphology).

Daudu (2001) define morphology as “the scientific study of morphemes. A word and morpheme are central to the study of morphology and a morpheme is the smallest units of meaning or grammatical structure.

Morphology goes beyond study of morphemes because it involves word formation in a language.

Abubakar (2001) defines morphology as “the study of morphemes which deals with word formation and inflection (i.e) lexical morphology and inflectional morphology word formation is sub-divided into two smaller sub-filed, one of which is concerned with the process of derivation and the other compounding”.

Bloom field (1937) defines morphology as “A subfield of linguistics that studies the internal structure of word and the relationship among words. He further said that it is a study of how words are formed out of minimal linguistic units.

Mathews (1974) also defines morphology as “A branch of linguistics which studies the forms of words, their different uses and construction. According to him, morphology as a field of study and is generally divided into two major sub-field. One concerned with the processes of inflection and other one with word formation.

According to Robins (1980) morphology is concerned with identifying morphemes and defining or characterizing the relative degree of relationship between morphemes and words.

Fage (2004) sees morphology as “the study of the internal structure of words in the lexicon. We conceive the lexicon as an abstract unit that store words in a language for lexical representation. The lexicon representation is the level at which lexical items are represented in the mental lexicon. We can think of a word as a minimum free form that can be expressed in standardized written form as well as in daily usage”.

From the above definition of the concept morphology one will understand that morphology is the study of morphemes and words formation. It studies the construction of words out of morphemes and defines the rules of a language governing how words can be changed into new words. Thus morphology studies internal structure of words.

Model of Approach

The model of approach adopted in analyzing morphological processes in Lungu]a are that of Mathews (1993)and Abubakar (2000) discusses morphological process, identifying three basic types uiz affixation, reduplication

and modification. According to him affixation and could be prefixation, in fixation, and suffixation while reduplication and modification are divided into complete and partial.

Abubakar (2000) shares the same view with Mathews (1993) on affixation and reduplication. But, slightly differs on modification. Abubakar (2000) did not categorize modification into two (2), according to him. Modification is the major morphological processes. Identifying sub-processes like suppletion (total modification, vowel change, stress change tone modification subtraction, clipping, hypocorism conversion blends and acronyms

Morphological Processes in Lungu]a

The morphological processes that were observed in Lungu]a are affixation, reduplication and modification.

Affixation In Lungu]a

The lungu]a language has only two types of affixation namely Prefixation and Suffixation.

Prefixation in Lungu]a

This process involves the occurrence of a bound morpheme before the root. In the study, we discovered two(2) prefixes namely nya, yaa and nam the three prefixes nya language nam one who come from nya is marking a person who belong to a language while the other one nam is marking the a person who came from place.

The Lunguda Prefixe “Nya”

Nyah + Igbo	Igbo language
Language + Igbo	
Nam + Hausaya	Hausa man
Owe who = Hausa man	
Yaa + Swormama	place of bathing or bathroom
Place + Bathing	

Suffixation In Lungu]a

This process involves the occurrence of a bound morpheme at the end of a root/stem me discoursed that in Lungu]a there are five types of suffixes namely.

- (1) Abstraction suffix “ha”
- (2) Possessive suffixes
- (3) Demonstrative suffixes
- (4) emphasis suffixes

Abstraction Suffix “Tha”

The “tha” suffix is a suffix of abstraction. It functions in much the same way as the English + ness + hood + ship. In addition Newman 1990. We discovered that “tha” suffices can be suffix to great variety of lungu]a words to form abstract nouns. The data in example 3 below abstract nouns derived from two verbs

3.A	Zwab+ tha	=	Zwabtha
	↓		↓
Child		=	Childhood
Kwala + tha	=		Kwalatha
↓			↓
Man	=		Manhood
Chiiba + tha	=		chibatha
↓			↓
Servant			slave/servant

Possessive Suffixes

In Lungu]a they have the following possessive suffixes as follows nyee jiiree, jeeng, maa and band. These possessive suffixes cannot occur alone and are thus written as part of the word. Which they modified out of the possessive suffixes. There are mea. Yee and there singulars and three plurals nyee and mae yere are singular while jiire, veen and bang are plural.

1. A The Nyi Suffix

Mwai + nyiye =	Mwainyiye
↓ ↓	↓
Wife mine =	Wife of mine my wife
Swing + nyiye =	Swignyiye
↓	↓
Child	Child mine my child

B. The Jiungwe Means Yours Both Sex

Jjiu + Jiungwe =	Jjiujiungwe
↓↓	↓
Goat + yours =	Goatyours your goat
Suliyau + jingre =	Suliyaujingure
↓	↓
Hen + yours =	Hen yours your hen

C. The “Yee” Suffix His or Hers.

Baa + yee =>	Baayee
↓ ↓	↓
Money +	Money of his/her/his money

D. The Jire Suffix Means ‘ours’

Thang + jire =>	Thangjire
↓↓	↓
Room	our room

Baa + jiire	=>	Baajiire	Baajiiree
↓↓		↓	
		Money	Oue Money
		Money	
		ours	

The Suffix Of Jeeng Both Male&Female

Baa + jeeng	=	Baajeeng
↓↓		↓
Money	=	Money yours
		your money

E. The Bang Suffix Meaning Theirs

Baa + bang	=	baanbang
↓		↓
Money	=	Money yours
		your money

F. The maa suffix means yours singular

Baa + maa	=	Baamaa
↓↓↓		
		Money + yours
		Money yours (your money)

Reduplication in Lungu]a

Reduplication is the second morphological processes that operate in the formation words. In Lungu]a, the term can be defined as a processes where by another share of meaning is produced through the process of reduplication the whole or part of the base form. That mean have two types of reduplication in Lungu]a namely: complete reduplication and partial reduplication.

Complete Reduplication

In Lungu]a we observed that there are situation where by the repeated segment or reduplication segment of a base form is exactly like the original copy. Consider the example (8) below.

a.	Zale	zale-zale
	↓	↓
	Yesterday	Yesterday- yesterday
b.	Ngurama	Ngurama-ngurama
	↓	↓
	Now	Now-now
c.	Farah	Farah-farah
	↓	↓
	White	Whitish
d.	Niimma	Niima-niima
	↓	↓
	Close	Close- close

Considering the data in example (8) above we observed that some adjectives in Lungu]a form their plurals through the process of complete reduplication.

PartialReduplication in Lungu]a

In Lungu]a there are situation where by only part of the base form is repeated or reduplication the data in example (9) illustrated these phenomena .

a.	Swabaa	swab-swab
	↓	↓
	Slow	Slowly
	Fara	Farfara
	↓	↓
	Red	Redish
b.	Fiiree	Firfire
	↓	↓
	White	Whitish

Modification in Lungu]a

Modification is the third morphological process that operate in the formation of word in Lungu]a. under this general heading of modification, there are sub-process and they are suppletion (i.e) Total modification (ii) Vowel change (iii) Stress (iv) Tone modification (v) Subtraction (vi) Clipping (vii) Conversion (viii) Blends and (ix) Acronyms (Abubakar (2000)).

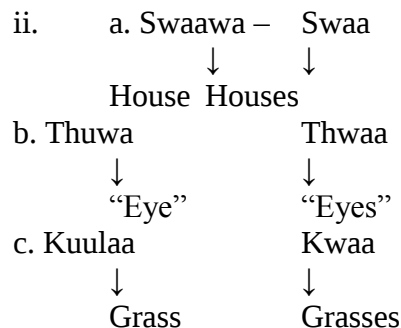
Suppletion (Tonth modification

In Lungu]a there are words that show no apparent correlation between the forms of related words they exhibit a complete change of sound. Such that there is no link between the original word and the derived form. That means there is an alternation of the word-form such that the morphological or grammatical link between the two form is no longer apparent. See the example (10) below:

10.	Zwìyée	Zwàbáa
	↓	↓
	“Child”	“Children”
	Gìrâmká	Swíínyáwá
	↓↓	
	“Cock”	“Hen”
	Bàkírálà	Síngílawá
	↓	↓
	“Ram”	“Ewe”

Vowel Change

In Lungu]a. we discovered that there are some words that exhibit this processes of a change in the vowel of the base form in order to clerive another word. Consider example (ii) Below:



Tone Modification in Lungu[a]

According to Abubakar (2000) Tone has two functions namely Logical function and Morphological functions in this paper we are concerned with the morphological functions only. Example of these phenomena is provided in example 12 below:

12. Sìngké SÍngké = Wine/Sea
 Sìungwá SÍungwá = Flies/Behaviour
 Kàriûngwá KÁriûngwá = Crocodiles/ Inheritance

The above pairs of words illustrate the lexical function of the tone. We will now turn to its morphological functions which we say is the concern of our paper.

The domains of morphological function of tone

Areas have been identified in which tone performs morphological function in Lungu[a] and they are (a) Verbal system (b) Plural (c) Gender (d) Verbal noun (e) Voice (f) Imperative.

(a) **Verbal system:** The tense aspect distinction in the Hausa verbal system depends on both segmental and suprasegmental (prosodic) features of the verb form. Consider the following examples.

(b)		
Base form	Inflected form	Gloss
Kab	Kabang =	Cuting
	Kabwaa =	He will Cut
	A kab =	He Cut
Base form	Inflected form	Gloss
Kab	Kabang	Cut completely
	Kabuwaa	Cut and brought
	A kab	Cut completely passive
Nywa	Nywaa	Bought up.
	Nyuwa	Buy and bring
	A anyulama	Bought passive

From the above examples we observed that each of the two verbs kab to 'cut' and nywa to 'buy' has three forms terminating in ang, waa and ma with the tone pattern. High-low, high-high and low-high respectively,

(c) Plural

The plural form of noun or agent and the singular form of place name are distinguishable only by tone. While place name has a high tone pattern right through: the plural form of noun of agent has high-low /low/-high tone pattern.

Verb base	Noun of agent (pl)	Place name	Gloss
Chee	Chiiniibaa	Yaa chiriiniya	Reading Place
Sikin	Sikinniibaa	Yaa Sikirudiniyaa	
Writing			
Pissa	Bisingnibaa	Yaa Bissindirniya	
Shutings			

(d) Gender

In the area of derivation Kano dialect distinguish form morphologically. The Hausa has two example.

(a) Yaayaa (Elder sister with low-high tone pattern has the corresponding masculine form yaayaa (Elder brother with high-low tone pattern and also Baaba which has two different tone pattern of low-high baaba means father and high-low baaba mother.

But if has observed that the Lungu]a man don't have gender tone modifications.

(e) Verbal noun

The verbal nouns of the monosyllable verbs are derived through tone mollification and extra vowel lengthening. The base has a high tone, while the verbal noun has a tellington as example fielded below:

Base	Derival	Gloss
Chaa	Chaang	Eat/eating
Nyuu	Nyuwa	Drink/drinking
Zur	Zurang	Refuse/refusal

(f) Voice

The morphological function of tone can further be seen in derivatives or inflected words ending in taa suffix in Hausa example have active, passive and nominal focus construction.

Active voice construction

Muusa yaa kazanta kujeerarsa
Musa heelpost dirt chair of his
Musa dirty his chair

Passive voice construction

Kujeerar Muusa taa kazanta

↓ ↓ ↓↓

Chair of Musa it (fem) dirty)

Nominal focus construction

Kazantaa taa yi wa kujeerar Musa yawaa

Dirt it/fem make to/for chair Musa much

There is too much dirt on Musa's chair

The above examples is that of Hausa but the Lungu]a language don't have voice.

Clipping

Abubakar (2000) stated that clipping may be seen as another form of modification. It is simple refers to as another way of word coining by shortening the base, while still referring the same meaning and still a member of the same form/class.

In Lungu]a it is discovered that clipping occur in personal names. According to Buer (1991) Quoted in Abubakar (2000). There are two types of clipping namely back clipping and front clipping. See the below examples in 13 below:

1. Front clipping

Full form	Clipped form	Gloss
Nimiruna	Nimir	What God has give
Jimjele	Jim	Gift from God
Firama	Firaam	Kindness
Nadwama	Nadwa	I have seen

In terms of Back clipping the Lungu]a people don't have it.

Zero Derivation in Lungu]a

Under this heading of zero derivation we will discuss another category of female nouns which are derived from words or derivatives which have feature specification for both genders (i.e t most) consider the below examples:

<u>Word</u>	<u>Gloss</u>
Kujir	Take-care of
Dinge	Patient
Arama	Agreed
Framau	Kindness
Milele	Deaf
Thungthule	Fool
Kumeye	Native doctor
Zingsuraya	Youngest

The transformation of each of the above words from one gender to another is achieved by selecting the appropriate preverbal pronoun, stabilizer, referential marker or subject/object sentences.

Findings

As we have seen above that morphology is the study of words formation, we have discovered that in Lungu language has the following result.

- i. They only have prefix and suffix
- ii. No infix
- iii. The language doesn't have gender deference.
- iv. They both use complete and partial reduplication
- v. No voicing
- vi. Few research work on the language

Recommendations

Base on the findings we recommend that people should be in courage to try as much as possible to involve in researching. In order to help the younger ones.

Conclusion

From our discussion we have observed that Lungu like any other languages morphological processes are possible. In Lungu words are formed through various processes like affixation, reduplication and modification.

Affixation in Lungu has been discovered to be of two types namely prefixation and suffixation. Three prefixes were identified in this study namely *nya*, *nam*, and *yaa*.

Similarly three suffixes were also identified namely abstraction suffixation possessive suffixation demonstrative suffixes.

In the same vein. Words reduplication in Lungu has been observed to be of two types complete and partial. While word modification in Lungu has been discovered to be as follows: suppletion, Vowel change, Tone modification and under the tone modification the following domains that it occurs has been discussed as follows: verbal system, plural gender, verbal nouns, voice, clipping and under the clipping there are two types namely front and back, but only front clipping that occurs in Lungu, and finally zero derivation has been identified.

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