

Morphology refers to the process of how the words of a language are formed to create meaningful messages.³ Morphology identifies and classifies the morphemes and describes the types of combinations that build words in the language.⁴ In morphology, there are inflectional and derivational morphemes.⁵ According to Katamba, an affix is a morpheme which only occurs when it is attached to some other morpheme or morphemes such as a root or stem or base.⁶ In addition it can be concluded that a morpheme which attached the root or steam is called affix.

Derivational affix is the process of adding affixes to roots or bases in order to vary function or modify meaning. It very often changes the word class. Whereas Inflectional affix is the process of adding inflectional morphemes to a word, which may indicates grammatical information. And its does not change the word class. In addition, derivational affixes are one of efficient way in enlarging ones' vocabulary. Yet, students often face difficulties in using them appropriately. The difficulties in applying those affixes show the students' grammatical competence in producing the language. Corder said that it still

⁶ Francis Katamba, *Morphology*, (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1993), 44

remains to be shown that the process of learning second language is fundamentally different nature from the process of primary acquisition.⁷

There are many differences between Indonesian and English systems. One of the differences is word formation process, and one of the difficulties in learning English word formation process is using derivational affixes especially in using negative prefix. There is clear difference, both Indonesia and English language. In Indonesian language, in negating meaning students just need to add “tidak” before the word they want to use for example, if they want to say disagree in Indonesia they just need add “tidak” before word “setuju”. It also happens in uttering word impolite in Indonesia, they just need to add “tidak” before word “sopan”. In English, students need to differentiate when they have to use im- and when they have to use “dis” and another negative prefix. It is must easier when students say in Indonesian language when they are just asked to add “tidak” for negation. So the differences of word formation process in English and Indonesian language brings the Indonesian students into difficulty in mastering derivational affixes of English language especially in using negative prefix. In English, one way to make negative statements is by adding negative prefixes before the base word. It causes the Indonesian students face difficulties and makes misinformation errors in using negative prefix.

Thus from point of view above the writer is interesting to conduct a research concerning with word. The writer chooses the sixth semester students

⁷ Ibid.

of English Teacher Education Department as the subject of the research to know whether there is any misinformation error or not in using negative prefixes. And the researcher intends to do a research on students' misinformation error in using negative prefixes.

B. Research Questions

Based on background of the study above, the research wants to describe the problem as follows:

1. What are misinformation errors made by students in using negative prefixes?
2. What are the most frequent misinformation errors made by the students in using negative prefixes?

C. Objectives of The Research

Based on the statement of the problems stated previously, the objectives of this study are:

1. To know the misinformation error made by the students in using negative prefixes.
2. To find out the most frequent misinformation error made by the students in using negative prefixes.

The significances of this study are:

a. For students :

This is a preliminary report on a study of the effects of a 12-week

This is a preliminary study and it is not intended to be used for clinical purposes.

Unit 1: Cell Biology

The scope of this study is on students' mistakes in changing wo

F. Operational Definition

1. **Misformation:** are resulted from misapplying word formation rules, producing non-existent words, as in unconect instead of disconnect.
2. **Misformation error:** is characterized by the use of wrong form of the morpheme or structure.⁸
3. **Prefix:** is a syllable or syllables which appear in front of the root and can alter the meaning of the root.⁹ It means that a letter or group of letters attached to the beginning of a word that forms a new word.
4. **Negative prefixes:** prefixes can make of the opposite nature (degree) to a thing regarded as positive.

⁹ *ibid*