"*Economy Struggle to Escape Coronacoma*": Compound Word Formation Processes of COVID-19 Related Terms in Online English News Articles

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Abstract—**This study aimed to uncover the types of compound word formation and how the compound word formation processes of related new terms in the COVID-19 pandemic's online English news articles were formed. This study used Lieber (2009) and Plag's (2002) compound word formation frameworks. The data were obtained from ten news articles related to the COVID-19 pandemic using a qualitative descriptive method. The results showed that there were so varied types of the derivation of compound word processes, namely *coordinative*, *subordinative*, and *attributive*. Meanwhile, based on the stress of compound, the study found that there were *noun compound*, *endocentric compounds*, *exocentric compounds*, and *copulative compounds*. The results of this study indicated that *attributive compounds* and *subordinate compounds* are equally dominant in the analysis. Besides, the findings revealed that *noun* is the most dominant words than *verb* or *adverb*. To conclude, the present study provides both theoretical and practical implications.**

Index Terms—**compound words, COVID-19 pandemic, online English news article, English morphology**

I. INTRODUCTION

Language development all around the world is growing rapidly along with the development of technology and life (Bruce & Levin, 2001; Vulchanova et al., 2017). As one of the functions of language in the development of technology and life, new lexical and terms are currently developing very rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic delivered by electronic media, such as English online news articles (Gustilo et al., 2021; Saed et al., 2022; Qamar et al., 2022). Further, these new lexical terms are trending among language users (Khotimah et al., 2021; Nabila & Abdulrahman, 2021; Pura et al., 2022).

The rules in making a new terminology from a piece of news or information in society are called as word formation process. The process of forming words is called the morphological process. According to Yule (2017), the morphological process is a way in which the formation of a word by combining one morpheme with another morpheme or in other words. The fundamental purpose of this morphological research is how to identify morphemes and their distribution and combinations in constructing words by producing new lexemes from old lexemes, either by adding affixes to pre-existing forms, altering word classes, or combining them to generate a word combination.

Morphology is a sub-discipline of linguistics that discusses the patterns of words formed (Booij, 2007) or more precisely is the study of the internal structure of words, where words are formed from smaller pieces that have their meaning, but the word is grammatically language which can be simple and complex. Complex words are words that have an internal structure that can be divided into smaller parts, while simple words are the smallest words that consist of a single morpheme that has a meaning. A new word also can be formed naturally due to habits, environment, and time change, where these words are created through a process of word formation, especially compounding. Compounding is the process of combining two or more words into one unit with a single meaning (Delahunty & Garvey, 2010). According to Plag (2002) in Denise, compounding is the most productive sort of word production process in the English language, but it is also the most contentious in terms of linguistic analysis, as seen by the words of 'Spork'. The word is formed from 'Spoon' and 'Fork'. These two words are combined into one to form a new word and have a new meaning. The combination of word 'Spork' is combined from the beginning and end of the original word, which contains the meaning of the two original words, and is commonly called the blending word.

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Several studies, for example, Noumianty (2016); Sujatna et al., (2019); Simatupang and Supri (2020); Fitria (2021); Hovhannisyan and Murazyan (2021); and Haider and Salman (2021) have conducted research on compounding word formation in different contexts. The initial study comes from Nouminaty (2016). This study examined compound word process, types and meaning of the culinary terms discovered in Master Chef U.S. Season 7. The study applied a morphological approach and used a qualitative case study. The study shows that one coordinative compound, two subordinative compounds, and twelve attributive compounds were found. Besides, the author categorized the meanings of compound words into opaque and transparent meanings. There were two compounds with opaque meanings and thirteen compounds with transparent meanings.

The second is a study by Sujatna et al. (2019). This study investigated a linguistic perspective on the naming of nature tourism destinations in Pangandaran, West Java, Indonesia. The findings showed that compounding, coinage, derivation, and the proper name have a tight correlation with the local language as the root of the names, and it contains metaphorical expressions. Therefore, this can also show that the branding function of destination names has much correlation with the metaphorical meaning, because the names of natural tourist destinations, morphologically, come from blending composition, and proper names, whereas metaphorically the name means the physical characteristics of natural tourist destinations, location of the destination, and also the activities at the destination.

The third study is from Simatupang and Supri (2021). This study examined attentively the category of compound words that occurred during the worldwide COVID-19 epidemic and assessed each form of word meaning. As a consequence of the investigation, the author discovered two sorts of compound words, namely compound nouns and compound verbs. Meanwhile, the three categories of semantic meaning discovered are classified as idiomatic meaning, semi-idiomatic meaning, and literal meaning. The next study is from an Indonesian context, Fitria (2021) discussed type and examples of the word formation process in terms of pandemic COVID- 19. The findings showed that some types of word formation processes including borrowing, compounding, blending, acronym, clipping, and multiple processes were found. The fifth study is proposed by Hovhannisyan and Murazyan (2021). The study discovered a hundred of new terms, idioms, and meanings that have evolved in English as a result of worldwide developments. The authors concluded that language is a symbol of life and that word-stock changes instantly represent changes in social life. New terms, phrases, and interpretations for existing ones spread as a reaction to the coronavirus. The process of creating new words was only served by all productive word formation processes.

The last was conducted by Al-Salman and Haider (2021). The study analyzed the nature of the new English terms and phrases that developed in the aftermath of the COVID-19 crisis, as well as to determine the types of word-formation processes that led to the establishment of these neologisms in the English language. Using Bauer's (1983) theory, the authors developed the most trending English neologisms arising during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the most dominant word-formation processes that characterized the COVID-19 stimulated neologisms. The findings indicated that there were two sorts of word-formation mechanisms. The first is single word-formation procedures, which include coinage, affixation, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, borrowing, abbreviation, acronyms, and folk etymology.

The previous works focus on analyzing type and word formation process of the new term during the COVID-19 pandemic. To fill the gaps, this present study analyses and examines compound word process of each sample of the new term that was created, which previously has not been discussed. The present writers hope the findings from dozens of new words or new terminology that appeared and spread in society during the Covid-19 pandemic to contribute and become important things for the next researchers to analyze the morphological process in other fields. Based on the background of the study illustrated above, the present writers investigate the types of compound word formation and how the compound word formation process of the new terminology formed in the COVID-19 pandemic related terms in online English news articles. To this end, the study was guided by the following research questions:

1. What are the types of compound word formation found in the COVID-19 related terms in online English news articles?

2. How are the compound word formation processes formed in the COVID-19 related terms in online English news articles?

II. RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This study applied qualitative research. The data of this study are the compound words found in online English news articles related to the Covid-19 pandemic. This study is based on the theory of Lieber (2009) and Plag (2002) that explained clearly and in detail the word-formation process certainly of compounding. This study used online English news websites as the data source. The data source in details can be illustrated in the following table:

TABLE 1
DATA SOURCE

No.	Online English News Articles Websites	Data Source
1.	www.thejakartapost.com	https://www.thejakartapost.com/opinion/2022/02/04/curbing-omicrons-rise.html https://www.thejakartapost.com/academia/2020/05/03/pandemic-national-disaster-and-domestic-violence.html https://www.thejakartapost.com/paper/2021/05/28/pandemic-fatigue-fuels-defiance-of-covid-19-rules.html.
2.	www.cbc.ca/news.com	https://www.cbc.ca/news/entertainment/suga-positive-covid-after-us-trip-1.6297501
3.	www.thetimes.co.uk	https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/postcard-from-the-falkland-islands-the-40th-anniversary-of-the-war-will-be-a-time-for-reflection-d3ppfgdt2 https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/stand-by-for-a-stuttering-economic-recovery-2fxt2kbv8 https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/two-in-three-of-us-have-put-on-weight-in-lockdown-5snj7pspf
4.	https://www.aljazeera.com/	https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/9/20/coronavirus-all-you-need-to-know-about-symptoms-and-risks
5.	https://indianexpress.com/	https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/judge-narrows-zoom-lawsuit-over-user-privacy-zoombombing-7227711/
6.	https://www.nytimes.com/	https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/13/technology/coronavirus-virtual-haircut.html

In collecting data, this study used a library research technique to get the data that contains the new terms of COVID-19 from ten online English news articles. Meanwhile, the present writers adopted Fitria's (2021) data-analyzing technique which was applied in several steps. The first step is searching for some online English news articles on the internet that contains new terms during the COVID-19 pandemic. The second step is classifying the terms in each type of compound word formation. The third step is describing each type and form of the compound words of the new terms. The last step is summarizing the result of the whole investigation of the data.

For example:

Self-isolation

"......New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has gone into *self-isolation* until Tuesday ......".

(https://english.alarabiya.net)

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study investigates the types of compound word formation and how the compound word formation processes of the new terminology created in the COVID-19 pandemic in online news articles are formed. The results show that four data classified as attributive compounds, namely subordinative compound, and coordinative compound. Each finding is explained as follows:

A. Attributive Compound

Attributive compounds are compound word that includes two parts, a head, and a non-head, both of which include lexical roots, and in which the non-head is interpreted as a modifier of the head also the constituents are in opposition to each other. The following is data classification from online news articles and their processes.

Data 1

Lockdown

".......and it would be difficult for the economy to cope with another hard *lockdown* or if the current wave of cases spirals into a full-blown health crisis".

(www.thejakartapost.com)

The word *lockdown* in data 1 consists of two morphemes including *lock* and *down*. These are the smallest units of each word and they can stand alone. The word *lock* means a device that prevents something such as a door from being opened and it can only be opened with a key. Meanwhile the word *down* has meaning in or towards a low or lower position, from a higher one.

Based on the type of compound word formation, *lockdown* is an attributive compound because the word *down* shows the relationship with the first word, *lock*. Based on a syntactic point of view, there is no head from the combination of *lock + down*. Thus, the word *lockdown* is categorized to be an exocentric compound and a noun compound, because no head inside these two words, and the word class is determined lexically. In the word *lockdown,* after combining the word *lock* and *down*, it has a new meaning. In a pandemic context, it deals with an emergency measure or condition in which people are temporarily prevented from entering or leaving a restricted area or building such as a school, college, office, etc. during a threat of danger (Merriam Webster Online Dictionary).

Data 2

Community Transmission

"No lives have been lost to the virus and there has been one incident of *community transmission*, …..."

From data 2, the process of compound word *community transmission* consists of two morphemes. The first word is *community* and the second word is the *transmission*. Both are considered free morphemes and these two have the same categories in the word class that is *nouns* and altogether are the smallest units of each word. They also can stand alone and are already listed in the English dictionary.

By the type of compound word formation, *community transmission* is an attributive compound, because the word *community* modifies the word *transmission*. It is a noun compound. It is also an endocentric compound. The word *community* means the people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, social group, or nationality. Secondly, the word *transmission* is defined as an act, process, or instance of transmitting or the process of conveying something from one person or area to another (Cambridge Online Dictionary). A situation when a country, region, or area is witnessing bigger outbreaks of local transmission is the new definition that results from the merging of COVID and community transmission. Since the meaning is derived from the literal meaning of each word, the sort of meaning that community transmission reflects is the literal meaning.

Data 3
Coronababies
"In Indonesia, a viral meme is circulating on social media to expect *"coronababies"."*

The word *coronababies* is formed from three morphemes which are categorized into a compound noun. Two of the morphemes are free morphemes (*corona* and *baby*), because they can stand themselves, and one is an inflectional bound morpheme (suffix–es) which indicates a plural noun. It is called as an inflectional bound morpheme because it connects to the word *baby*. The term *corona* refers to a circle of light that may occasionally be seen around the moon at night or around the sun during an eclipse. According to the Cambridge online dictionary, it means a time when the moon is positioned exactly between the sun and the earth.

Those combinations of corona + *baby* +-*es* build a new word that becomes *coronababies* and it is an attributive compound, it can be seen from the first element. It shows the relationship with the head. The head here is *babies* and the *corona* is the modifier. Thus, this compound is categorized as an endocentric compound because the referent compound is the same as the referent of the head. While the meaning of *coronababies* based on dictionary.com is the babies that were born or conceived during the pandemic situation.

Data 4
Coronacut
"Tales of *coronacut* gone wrong have bubbled up on social media,...............".

Coronacut in data 4 is a compound word that comes from the combination of two free morphemes that is *corona* and *cut*. In this case, the word *corona* is categorized as a noun and the word *cut* is categorized as a verb. After they are combined, new words become a *noun*. It is because the word is categorized as a noun compound. Both morphemes are listed in the dictionary and have each meaning. According to the oxford online dictionary, the *corona* has two meanings, firstly a ring of light seen around the sun or moon, especially during an eclipse, and secondly infection with or disease caused by a coronavirus. However, the present writers take the second meaning, because the theme of the discussion is about coronavirus pandemic. In another hand, *cut* is an activity to break the surface of something or to divide or make something smaller, using a sharp tool, especially a knife. The compound word *coronacut* has the word *cut* as the head and the word *corona* as the modifier. From this explanation, the present writers conclude that *coronacut* is *endocentric compound* because *coronacut* has semantic relationship which predictable and the right-side word is the head of word then it is also considered as attributive compound with the new meaning of the whole word as *the hilariously bad haircut we give ourselves under lockdown*.

B. Subordinative Compound

The subordinative compound is the compound words that follow a structure where the first constituent is a modifier and the second constituent is the head. Such compound can be seen in the following data.

Data 5
Coronavirus
"Countries around the world step up efforts to tackle the new *coronavirus* that has killed hundreds of thousands."

Data 5 shows that the compound word *coronavirus* consists of two morphemes, and two of these elements have the same category as a noun. The first word or morpheme is *corona*, and the second-word *virus*. Both words are free morphemes because they can stand alone. Based on Merriam Webster online dictionary, the word *corona* means a bright circle seen around the sun or the moon. Meanwhile, *virus* is an extremely small piece of organic material that causes disease in humans, animals, and plants (Cambridge online dictionary).

Based on the type of compound word formation, *coronavirus* is categorized as a subordinative compound, because the word *corona* and *virus* have the same word class and both do not have a head that considers dominating all the entire word. In addition, this compound is classified as endocentric compound due to the semantic relationship between these three are predictable. Therefore, from the compound stress, *coronavirus* is classified as a compound noun,

because *coronavirus* is not a bright circle seen around the sun or the moon but it is a kind of name for the disease that is caused by the virus. The new definition of coronavirus, which is formed by combining the words corona and virus, is an infectious condition produced by a coronavirus that produces fever, weariness, coughing, and alterations in the perceptions of smell and taste, and can lead to respiratory problems and serious sickness in some people.

Data 6

Coronacoma

"Economy will struggle to escape *coronacoma*"

(https://www.thetimes.co.uk)

The next new term that was formed by situation and condition during the pandemic time is *coronacoma*. This unique word is formed by two free morphemes. The first free morpheme is *corona,* which the word class is *noun,* and means as a general period in which people are not allowed to leave their homes or travel freely so that they do not catch or spread a disease (Cambridge online dictionary). The second morpheme is *coma*. The word class of *coma* is a *noun*. Based on Cambridge online dictionary, it is a state in which a person is unconscious and cannot be woken, caused by damage to the brain after an accident or illness. From the previous explanation; the present writers categorize *coronacoma* as a noun compound. Meanwhile, the type of compound from this compound word is a subordinative compound, because the word *coma* follows and modifies the word *corona*, and it can be seen as an exocentric compound. Thus, Krugman (2020) in Fitria, *coronacoma* is the new compound word which is has meaning as "means the economic equivalent of a medically induced coma that deliberately shut down certain brain functions to give the patient time to recover".

Data 7

Hand sanitizer

"He never missed a chance ....carrying a bottle of *hand sanitizer* with him whenever he went outside"

(www.thejakartapost.com)

Based on data 7, two elements make up the compound word *hand sanitizer*. Those elements are from the same categories, both *hand* and sanitizer are as noun. The word *sanitizer* has the bound morpheme /-r/. According to Oxford online dictionary, *hand* has meaning as the part of the body at the end of the arm, including the fingers and thumb. Meanwhile *sanitize* is to make something completely clean and free from bacteria (Cambridge online dictionary). The word *hand-sanitizer* is a noun compound, because of the form of the combining where *noun + verb* becomes noun. Thus, *hand-sanitizer* is categorized as a subordinative compound, with the first constituents modifying the second constituents. This compound is kind of left-headed because it defines the second steam stage and also has each meaning as listed in the English dictionary, so the present writers put this to be an exocentric compound. The meaning of *hand-sanitizer* that can be found in the dictionary is a liquid-like substance used for cleaning your hands and killing bacteria (Cambridge online dictionary).

Data 8

Coronaspeck

"Weight gain during lockdown is so well documented that Germans have developed a word for it, *"coronaspeck"* (corona bacon)".

(www.thetimes.co.uk)

From data 8, the word *coronaspeck* comes from more two morphemes which are blended altogether. The first blending word *corona* and the second word is *speck*. This word is actually derived from Germany, but it is confirmed and has already been verified as a common word in English. The word *speck* in English means bacon, bacon fat or flab (Collins dictionary). These elements can stand alone and cannot be divided into small parts anymore. And the word *speck* shows as the head for the whole word, so that the transformation of the word *coronaspeck* is categorized as a compound noun. According to Merriam webster online dictionary, the word *corona* means a bright circle seen around the sun or the moon.

According to the types of compounds, *coronaspeck* is classified into a subordinative compound, because the structure where the second constituents modify the first constituents and headless. So, from the semantic point of view, the *coronaspeck* word is classified as the exocentric compound. *Coronaspeck* is not a kind of disease caused by a virus, but it is the term which has related to someone's body's weight gained fast during lockdown as a result of eating more than usual because of working from home (Collins online dictionary).

C. Coordinative Compound

A coordinative compound is a compound that contains one or more coordinate bonds. In other words, it is a compound that contains a coordination complex. It also can say that both elements of this are semantic heads. In the first element of the coordinative compound, the first element of the compound does not modify the second, but both of the two have equal meaning. In this study, the present writers only find one data that fulfill the category of the coordinative compound. The data sample is illustrated as follow.

Data 9

Self-quarantine

"Suga, 28, whose real name is Min Yoon-gi, ...virus on Friday during his *self-quarantine* upon his return ....".

(https://www.cbc.ca)

Based on data 9, two morphemes with different elements and different categories are presented. In a word class, *Self* and *quarantine* are classified as a noun. Both have the same categories as free morphemes. A noun is combined with a noun. Thus, it is categorized as a noun compound. *Self* means of or by yourself or itself. Meanwhile, *quarantine* based on Merriam's online dictionary is a *situation* of being kept away from others to prevent a disease from spreading.

Therefore, *self-quarantine* is a coordinative compound because these compounds have two semantic heads (self and quarantine), none of them being subordinate to the other also this word is formed by a hyphen and it is a special characteristic of a coordinative compound. By the sign of a hyphen, it is categorized as a copulative compound. According to Collins's online dictionary, the meaning of *self-quarantine* is as a period of self-imposed isolation to prevent the spread of disease.

Data 10
Zoom-bombing
"...........with Facebook, Google and LinkedIn, and letting malevolent intruders join Zoom meetings in a practice called *Zoom-bombing*".

(https://indianexpress.com)

Zoom-bombing, in data 10 shows multiple morphemes through multiple word formation processes of *zoom + bomb + -ing*. It is formed by combining two free morphemes and one derivational suffix. Zoom is a brand name for computer software that allows a group of two or more people to see and chat with each other over the internet using their computers, tablets, or cellphones (Cambridge online dictionary). While the other free morpheme is *bomb*. Based on Cambridge online dictionary, it is a weapon that explodes and is used to kill or hurt people or to damage buildings. *Zoom* and *bomb* are the smallest units of the words. For derivational suffix *–ing*, it is a bound morpheme that generally should combine with the base and it will change the part of the speech.

From the word process, the type of compound word from *zoom-bombing* is classified into the coordinative compound. It can be seen from the two semantic heads and the hyphen. It is noun-noun compound, or noun compound. It is also a copulative compound because each of the words is separated by a hyphen. *Zoom-bombing* creates new meanings after these words are combined. According to the Cambridge online dictionary, it is the act of someone participating in a video conference or a meeting in which two or more people in different locations can talk to and see each other using electronic technology to which they have not been invited, often with the intent of interrupting and annoying the people in the meeting.

IV. Conclusion

The existence of the COVID-19 pandemic which has disrupted the health, economy, and life and happiness of all mankind in the world has brought many things, especially in the field of language. Many new terms have been formed since the pandemic broke out, some of which can be categorized as compound words. In this study, the present writers investigate the types of compound word formation and how the compound word formation process of the new terminology created in the COVID-19 pandemic in online English news articles on the website are formed. The findings reveal ten new lexemes or terms in an online English news article, such as *lockdown, community transmission, coronababies, coronacut, coronavirus, coronacoma, handsanitizer, coronaspeck, self-quarantine,* and *zoom-boombing*. The results also show that four words classify as an attributive compound, four subordinative compounds, and two coordinative compounds. The results of this study indicate that attributive compounds and subordinate compounds are equally dominant in this analysis. While based on the stress in the compound, the findings show ten words as noun compounds, four words as an endocentric compound, four data as an exocentric compound, and two words as a copulative compound. To sum up, the noun compound was the most dominant. This study has a significant contribution to the corpus of knowledge that enhances and supports intercultural communication. During critical moments, it is necessary to exchange key information. Knowing each pandemic language is crucial for establishing intercultural interaction and formulating effective worldwide responses to pandemic information. This study's findings also contribute significantly to the growth of the discipline of applied linguistics or language instruction. Lexical creativity displayed in many ways to produce new words has been a fruitful area of study that can throw light on the expansion of the lexicon of English variations while also providing a foundation for learning.

Acknowledgments

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