



## MORPHO SEMANTICS, NOUN ANALYZATION OF MORPHEMES WITH SUFFIXES \*FUL AND \*LESS.

*By: Khayitbaev Otakhon Shokirovich*

*Occupation: Lecturer in Mamun University*

*E mail: [xayitbayev\\_otaxon@mamunedu.uz](mailto:xayitbayev_otaxon@mamunedu.uz)*

*Phone number: +998996225999*

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**Abstract:** These days, there is a great deal of discussion on the morphosemantic purpose of suffixes like as "full" and "less," amongst others. However, it appears that in order to get more knowledge about them, we need to address the qualities of the nouns with which they are related in order to talk about the features of the nouns.

This study will present a corpus analysis (COCA) of the suffixes "ful" and "less," as well as the specialties of the nouns to which they are attached, such as similarities and differences in form and meaning, word roots, expression combinations, and so on. The suffixes "ful" and "less" will also be analyzed in conjunction with the nouns to which they are attached. This research, which focuses mostly on nouns, makes an effort to discern between the various use categories and then kinds of nouns with the assistance of COCA. The primary emphasis of this study is on nouns.

### **1. Introduction**

Corpus-based research in the productivity of word production have proven that massive computer corpora may be usefully exploited to find long-sought answers to concerns connected to the issue of morphology. These solutions have



been sought for a very long time. This point has been driven home by the fact that people have been looking for answers to these issues for a very long time. (e.g. Baayen, 1992, 1993; Baayen & Lieber, 1991; Baayen & Renouf, 1995; Baayen & Neijt, 1997; Plag, 1999). The suffixes that have been discussed thus far are all antonyms, and the meaning, or, to put it more precisely, the ultimate meaning, of any connected morpheme would be the same regardless of whatever suffix was attached to it. In this analysis, the morphemes serve as the major point of concentration due to the fact that they represent the primary source of semantic support for the final product (when morpheme connected with the suffix). There, we have the ability to ask numerous questions, one of which is, "What categories of nouns (morphemes) do they commonly prefer to connect?" Do they exhibit any qualities that are shared by both their outward look and the message they convey? How do they jumble themselves up in various sorts of phrases? We are making an effort to obtain answers to these issues with the assistance of the COCA.

**Key words: Morphosemantics, suffix, corpus analysis (COCA), "ful" and "less", Corpus-based research**

## **2. Methodology**

One of the corpora that was used in this investigation was the Corpus of Contemporary American English, which is usually referred to by its acronym, COCA. COCA is one of the biggest accessible corpora and includes data on the English language from the years 1990 to 2022, making it one of the most comprehensive corpora. This specific corpus comprises a quantity of corpus that draws from an electronic database of words and has one billion words in total.

### **Data analyzation.**

The major linguistic qualities at stake have, for the most part, already been labeled, and it is possible to discover them via the use of the online search tools

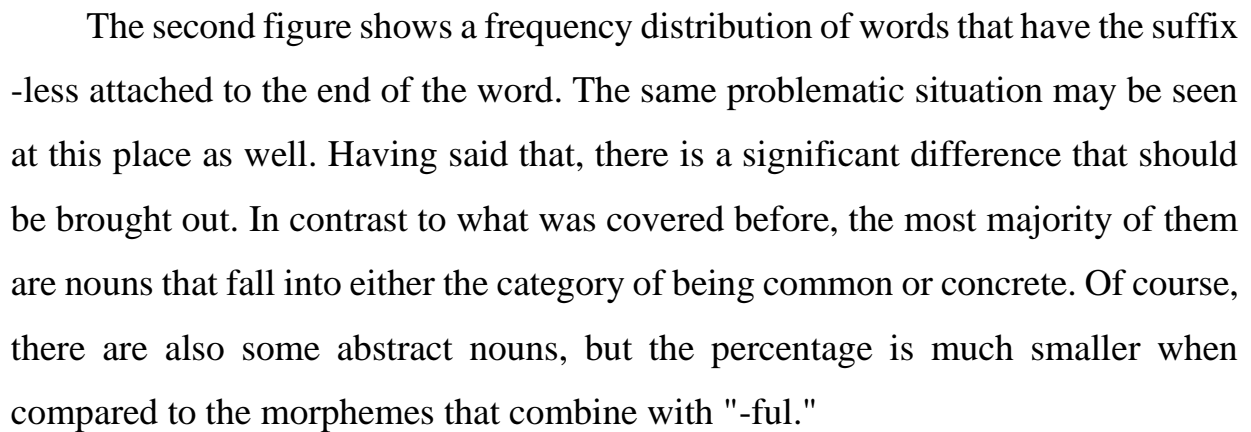


supplied by the corpora. As a consequence of this, and in order to make the most of the adaptable search features provided by the COCA, the method for searching and evaluating the data used in this investigation is almost broken down into many stages: first, a query of the overall frequencies of -less and -ful in COCA; second, a query of the frequencies of each type of N-less and N-ful constructions; and third, an analysis of the results; third, I analyze nouns and try to find form and semantic similarities and differences; fourth, I include also "awesome" and "awful" expressions, as there are also some interesting points to add to our topic. Firstly, a query of the overall frequencies of

### 3. Analysis

This page provides a COCA frequency chart for the word "ful," which we may go at at our leisure. Nouns make up the vast majority of the connected morphemes, with the word "beautiful" being the noun that shows up most often in contexts. As can be seen from the above list, the vast majority of these nouns have the form of abstract nouns. There are certain morphemes that are analogous to the ones that are shown in the next two pictures, which are: (useful, helpful, harmful, hopeful and harmful). These morphemes are shared by both of these sets of conditions; nonetheless, the meanings that are conveyed by their suffixes could not be more different from one another. The great majority of morphemes can be differentiated from one another when compared to other morphemes.







Another topic that has been discussed in the past is one that has the potential to be discussed once again now. At first look, the morphemes (terrible and amazing) may give the impression that the word "awe" is the root of both of these adjectives; however, this is not the case. To do so, however, would be incorrect due to the fact that the words from which these two morphemes are formed are completely separate from one another (aw, and awe)

### aw interjection

Save Word

\ ˈ ɑ ː \

#### Definition of aw (Entry 1 of 2)

—used to express mild disappointment, gentle entreaty, or real or mock sympathy or sentiment

It is clear from the context that this is an interjection, and that it expresses a moderate degree of dissatisfaction. The addition of the suffix complete serves to emphasize the meaning of the word even more. It is clear from the corpus that the morpheme is used rather often.

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# awful adjective



Save Word

aw·ful | \ 'ô-fəl 🔊 \

## Definition of awful (Entry 1 of 2)

- 1 : extremely disagreeable or objectionable  
*// awful food*  
*// awful behavior*  
*// an awful experience*
- 2 *informal* : exceedingly great —used as an intensive  
*// an awful lot of money*

The word "awe" is the origin of the morpheme "awe," and it has a meaning that is completely unrelated to the meaning of the term we discussed before. This demonstrates that "awe" is a noun and that it may have a variety of meanings (wonder, veneration). When "-some" is added to a phrase, the meaning becomes more profound.

## awe noun



Save Word

\ 'ô \

## Definition of awe (Entry 1 of 2)

- 1 : an emotion variously combining dread, veneration, and wonder that is inspired by authority or by the sacred or sublime  
*// stood in awe of the king*  
*// regard nature's wonders with awe*
- 2 *archaic*
  - a : DREAD, TERROR
  - b : the power to inspire dread

awe·some | \ 'ô-səm 🔊 \

## Definition of awesome

- 1 **a** : inspiring awe  
*// an awesome task/responsibility*  
*// a place of awesome beauty*
- b** *informal* : TERRIFIC, EXTRAORDINARY  
*// had an awesome time at the concert*
- 2 : expressive of awe  
*// awesome tribute*

## awe verb

awed; awing

## Definition of awe (Entry 2 of 2)

*transitive verb*

- : to inspire or fill with awe  
*// We were awed by the beauty of the mountains.*



#### 4. Conclusion.

This page offers a discussion of nouns that are connected to suffixes that are related to (-ful,-less). I have insisted on the suffixal status of (-ful,-less) both in initial and final position by means of an analysis on the processes of grammaticalization that these two forms have gone through, despite the fact that different people have arrived at different conclusions regarding the nature of these two forms. I have done this by insisting that the suffixal status of (-ful,-less) is the same whether it is in initial or final position.

We have counted and compared the morphemes that include these affixes so that we may obtain an estimate of how often they are used. The COCA corpus was used in the research, and the most prevalent morphemes were included into the analysis of the data. One of the research goals for this analysis was to determine how the morphemes differ from one another in both their shape and their meaning. This analysis placed a significant emphasis, among other things, on paying attention to the basic characteristics of the nouns.

As a result of doing this inquiry, I have significantly increased the amount of information I possess. The vast majority of the nouns that are capable of being coupled with these suffixes are abstract nouns. This is because these suffixes are ones that form adjectives. As an additional point of interest, these two antonym suffixes do not have any nouns in common with one another. This is due to the fact that I was only able to recognize five nouns from the top 20 most common pairs. The production of mostly adjectives from abstract nouns is facilitated by these morphologically classified suffixes, which play a role in the process. Nouns are less descriptive than their adjective counterparts. When the antonym of a noun is produced by adding another suffix to the original noun, the form of the morphemes that make up the noun do not change. This is because the construction of the antonym follows the same rules as the construction of the original noun.



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