INFLECTIONAL AFFIXES IN OLIVIA RODRIGO'S SONG LYRICS IN *SOUR* ALBUM

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to find out and describe the types of inflectional affixes found in Olivia Rodrigo's song lyrics in Sour album based on Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams theory (2011: 51). The data of this research will be all words from the song lyrics Sour album by Olivia Rodrigo which contain inflectional affixes. This study applied descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. The writer found 7 types of inflectional affixes used in Sour album. There are 135 total data; 16 data categorized into third-person singular present inflection, 37 data categorized into past tense inflection, 27 data categorized into present progressive inflection, 13 data categorized into past participle inflection, 37 data categorized into plural inflection, 2 data categorized into possessive inflection, and 3 data categorized into comparative inflection. There are no superlative inflections used in Sour album song lyrics.

Keywords: Inflectional Affixes, Types of Inflectional Affixes, Song Lyrics, Morphology.

INTRODUCTION

Morphology is the study of the internal structure of words, by which words are formed according to the rules of word formation (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams, 2011: 41). In morphology, the smallest units of words that have meaning and cannot be subdivided further is called morpheme. A morpheme is the smallest linguistic unit with its own meaning (Lieber, 2009: 3). According to Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2011: 67), there are two types of morpheme, free morpheme and bound morpheme. A bound morpheme is a morpheme that cannot stand alone as a word with a specific meaning, such *as -ish, -ness, -ly,* and *un*-. Bound morphemes mostly refer to morphemes that can occur as affixes. Affixes are bound morphemes that are not free, in that they must always be attached to a root morpheme. There are two kinds of affixes; inflectional affixes and derivational affixes (Yule, 2006: 64).

Inflectional affixes refer to word formation that does not change category and does not create new lexemes (Lieber, 2009: 88). Inflectional affixes never change the grammatical category or part of speech. It is used to create a variant form of a word in order to signal grammatical information. For example, the suffix –*ed* in *walked* signals that a verb is past tense.

The process of inflectional affixes can be found in many sources that contains of words, such as song lyric. The writer was interested to analyze song lyrics as the object of the research because song lyric contains process of affixations which happen in some words. In this research the writer will use Olivia Rodrigo's song lyrics in *Sour* album as the object of this study because the writer found many words that contain inflectional affixes and the writer interested to analyze it. This topic is very important because it able to build a new vocabulary, word formation, and learn the meaning of the words. That's why the writer interested to choose this topic.

The objective of this study is to find out the types of inflectional affixes are found in Olivia Rodrigo's song lyrics in *Sour* album. The scope of this study is types of inflectional affixes found in Olivia Rodrigo's song lyrics in *Sour* album.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

There are two kinds of affixes; inflectional affixes and derivational affixes (Yule, 2006: 64). Inflectional affixes represent relationship between different parts of a sentence. For example, suffix -*s* appended to the word *likes* represents the relationship between the verb and the third person singular subject (Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams, 2011: 50). The key point about inflection is that applying it never gives a new word class, but only a different form of the same word. Inflectional affixes does not change category and create new word, but rather changes the form of word so that they fit into different grammatical contexts (Lieber, 2009: 88). It means that inflectional affixes modify a word's form and change the grammatical subclass of the word. It may also be remembered that an inflectional affixes comes at the end of the word and no other suffix can be added to the word further. According to Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2011: 51), in English there are eight inflectional affixes, they are:

- 1. The Third-Person Singular Present Tense (-s). It is used to describe a current event or state of being. It is to mark that the subject of sentences in present tense is singular, or in other words, it marks to agree with singular third person, e.g. wait + s = waits.
- 2. **Past Tense** (*-ed*). It is used to express something that happened in the past. It marks for past action (past tense) and used for past activity or a past state of being, e.g. wait + ed = waited.
- 3. **Present Progressive** (*-ing*). It is used to form the present participle or continuous aspect, e.g: eat + ing = eating.
- 4. **Past Participle (***-en***)**. It is used to form the present perfect and past perfect, and used to show an activity which has already been done or had never been done, e.g: eat + en = eaten.
- 5. Plural (-*s* or -*es*). It is used to express plurality, or in other words to marks as more than one (plural number), e.g: mug + s = mugs.
- 6. **Possessive ('s or s')**. It is used to express possessive. By adding apostrophe in the end of the root it shows possessive, e.g: Jane + 's = Jane's.
- 7. Comparative (*-er*). It is used to describe that one thing or a person has more quality than that of being compared, e.g: fast + er = faster (more fast).
- 8. **Superlative** (*-est*). It is used to describe the extreme quality of one thing in a group of things. It will mark that one thing or a person has highest quality among others, e.g. fast + est = fastest (very fast).

English Inflectional	Example	Attaches to	
Affixes			
(-s) third-person singular	She wait-s at home	verbs	
present tense			
(-ed) past tense	She wait- <i>ed</i> at home	verbs	
(-ing) present progressive	She is eat- <i>ing</i> the donut	verbs	
(-en) past participle	Mary has eat-en the donuts	verbs	
(-s) plural	She ate the donut- <i>s</i>	nouns	
(-'s) possessive	Disa's hair is short / Thomas' book	nouns	
(-er) comparative	Disa has short- <i>er</i> hair than Karin	adjectives	
(-est) superlative	Disa has the short- <i>est</i> hair	adjectives	

Table 1. English Inflectional Affixes

METHODS

The writer used qualitative research method to analyze the data. According to Moleong (2014: 4), descriptive qualitative method is a research procedure that generates descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from the observed behavior of people. This means that descriptive qualitative method is a method used to describe everything related to the research topic in the forms of written documents. Therefore, through this method the writer wants to describe the data in text form descriptively based on the research problems, namely the types of inflectional affixes found in Olivia Rodrigo's song lyrics *Sour* album. The data of this research will be all words from the song lyrics *Sour* album by Olivia Rodrigo which contain inflectional affixes. The album consists of 11 songs.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The writer found 7 types of inflectional affixes in the song lyrics of *Sour* album based on Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2011) theory. Those types are third-person singular present, past tense, presents progressive, past participle, plural, possessive, and comparative.

1. Third-Person Singular Present

There are 16 data indicated using the third-person singular type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of the third-person singular present affixes:

Data 1: One more girl who brings out the better in you.

The word *brings* is an inflection word. It indicates the use of third-person singular present by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base word of *brings* is *bring*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present tense rule which produces a new word *brings* and not change the meaning either word class. There is singular person, *girl*, to show that it is a third-person singular present. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *brings* is third-person singular present inflection word.

Data 2: ... She looks kind,

Based on the data above, *looks* is an inflection word. It indicates the use of third-person singular present by attaching suffix –*s* to the end of the base word. The base word of *looks* is *look*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present tense rule which produces a new word *looks* and not change the meaning either word class. There is singular person, *she*, to show that it is third-person singular present. Suffix –*s* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *looks* is third-person singular present inflection word.

Data 3: She thinks it's special.

Thinks is an inflection word. It indicates the use of third-person singular present by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base word of *thinks* is *think*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present tense rule which produces a new word *thinks* and not change the meaning either word class. There is singular person, *she*, to show that it is third-person singular present. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *thinks* is third-person singular present inflection word.

Data 4: ..., but it *feels* like that.

Feels indicates the use of third-person singular present by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base word of *feels* is *feel*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present

tense rule which produces a new word *feels* and not change the meaning either word class. There is singular person, *it*, to show that it is third-person singular present. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *feels* is third-person singular present inflection word.

The data in table 2 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely third-person singular present. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Base Word	Third-Person Singular Present	New Word
	Affixes	
bring	-S	brings
look	-s	looks
give	-S	gives
lie	-s	lies
quit	-s	quits
ride	-S	rides
think	-s	thinks
joke	-s	jokes
know	-s	knows
like	-s	likes
hate	-S	hates
tell	-S	tells
want	-s	wants
feel	-S	feels
seem	-s	seems
rerun	-S	reruns

Table 2. Third-Person Singular Present Inflection found in Sour album

2. Past Tense

The writer found 37 data indicated using the past tense type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of the past tense affixes:

Data 5: Just like we always *talked* about.

The word *talked* in the lyric above is an inflection word. It indicates the use of past tense by attaching suffix *-ed* to the end of the base word. The base word of *talked* is *talk*. These words are verb. This form is used for the past tense rule which produces a new word *talked* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ed* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *talked* is past tense inflection word.

Data 6: *Called* you on the phone today.

Called indicates the use of past tense by attaching suffix *-ed* to the end of the base word. The base word of *called* is *call*. These words are verb. This form is used for the past tense rule which produces a new word *called* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ed* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *called* is past tense inflection word.

Data 7: I wore makeup when we dated.

Dated is an inflection word. It indicates the use of past tense by attaching suffix -ed to the end of the base word. The base word of *dated* is *date*. These words are verb. This form is used for the

past tense rule which produces a new word *dated* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ed* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *dated* is past tense inflection word.

Data 8: He played the drum in the marching band.

Played indicates the use of past tense by attaching suffix *-ed* to the end of the base word. The base word of *played* is *play*. These words are verb. This form is used for the past tense rule which produces a new word *played* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ed* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *played* is past tense inflection word.

The data in table 3 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely past tense. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Base Word	Past Tense Affixes	New Word
talk	-ed	talked
excite	-ed	excited
tire	-ed	tired
picture	-ed	pictured
use	-ed	used
cross	-ed	crossed
love	-ed	loved
wretch	-ed	wretched
believe	-ed	believed
attach	-ed	attached
move	-ed	moved
play	-ed	played
call	-ed -ed	called
betray	-ed	betrayed
want	-ed -ed	wanted
help	-ed -ed	helped
care	-ed -ed	cared
	-ed -ed	
happen	-ed -ed	happened reused
reuse		
exploit	-ed	exploited
perceive doubt	-ed	perceived doubted
	-ed	dated
date	-ed	looked
look	-ed	
try	-ed	tried
like	-ed	liked
satisfy	-ed	satisfied
start	-ed	started
watch	-ed	watched
defend	-ed	defended
hate	-ed	hated
create	-ed	created
iron	-ed	ironed
raise	-ed	raised
disappoint	-ed	disappointed
unaffect	-ed	unaffected
discard	-ed	discarded

Table 3. Past Tense Inflection found in Sour album

3. Present Progressive

There are 27 data indicated using the present progressive type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of the present progressive affixes:

Data 9: You're singing it together.

The word *singing* is an inflection word. It indicates the use of present progressive by attaching suffix *-ing* to the end of the base word. The base word of *singing* is *sing*. This form is used for the present progressive/ participle rule which produce a new word *singing* and not change the meaning. Suffix *-ing* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *singing* is present progressive inflection word.

Data 10: You're *doing* great out there without me, baby.

Doing is an inflection word. It indicates the use of present progressive by attaching suffix *-ing* to the end of the base word. The base word of *doing* is *do*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present progressive/ participle rule which produce a new word *doing* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ing* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *doing* is present progressive inflection word.

Data 11: ..., see everyone getting all the things I want.

Getting indicates the use of present progressive by attaching suffix *-ing* to the end of the base word. The base word of *getting* is *get*, these words are verb. This form is used for the present progressive/ participle rule which produce a new word *getting* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *-ing* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *getting* is present progressive inflection word.

Data 12: ..., you're *living* the life.

The word *living* is an inflection word. It indicates the use of present progressive by attaching suffix *—ing* to the end of the base word. The base word of *living* is *live*. These words are verb. This form is used for the present progressive/ participle rule which produce a new word *living* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix *—ing* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *living* is present progressive inflection word.

The data in table 4 is of the same type as the analysis above, namely present progressive. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Base Word	Present Progressive Affixes	New Word
cry	-ing	crying
drive	-ing	driving
laugh	-ing	laughing
pick	-ing	picking
cut	-ing	cutting
sleep	-ing	sleeping
work	-ing	working
do	-ing	doing
get	-ing	getting
talk	-ing	talking
trade	-ing	trading
watch	-ing	watching
be	-ing	being
annoy	-ing	annoying
sing	-ing	singing
brag	-ing	bragging
say	-ing	saying
excite	-ing	exciting
go	-ing	going
wonder	-ing	wondering
interest	-ing	interesting
kill	-ing	killing
follow	-ing	following
live	-ing	living
lose	-ing	losing
will	-ing	willing
march	-ing	marching

Table 4. Present Progressive Inflection found in Sour album

4. Past Participle

From the analysis 13 data indicated using past participle type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of past participle affixes:

Data 13: I've lost my mind.

The word *lost* is derived from base of verb *lose*. In the end of the base *lose*, there is suffix -t. The suffix -t is attached to the base to create past participle form which is used to indicate perfect tense in active sentence. Suffix -t attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *lost* is past participle inflection word.

Data 14: I've spent the night.

Spent is an inflection word. It is derived from base of verb spend. In the end of the base spend, there is suffix -t. The suffix -t is attached to the base to create past participle form which is used to indicate perfect tense in active sentence. Suffix -t attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, spent is past participle inflection word.

Data 15: You've moved on,

From the lyric above, the word *moved* is an inflection word. It is derived from base of verb *move*. In the end of the base *move*, there is suffix *-ed*. The suffix *-ed* is attached to the base to create past participle form which is used to indicate perfect tense in active sentence. Suffix *-ed* attached in order to make grammatically correct, not change the meaning, and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *moved* is past participle inflection word.

Data 16: Got a broken ego,

Broken is an inflection word derived from base of verb *break*. In the end of the base *break*, there is suffix *-en*. The suffix *-en* is attached to the base to create past participle form which is used to indicate perfect tense in active sentence. Suffix *-en* attached in order to make grammatically correct and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *broken* is past participle inflection word.

The data in table 5 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely past participle. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Base Word	Past Participle Affixes	New Word
feel	-	felt
go	-	gone
move	-ed	moved
think	-	thought
see	-n	seen
be	-en	been
lose	-t	lost
spend	-t	spent
break	-en	broken
catch	-t	caught
tire	-d	tired
have	-	had
care	-d	cared

Table 5. Past Participle Inflection found in Sour album

5. Plural

The writer found 37 data indicated using plural type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of plural affixes:

Data 17: Your *friends* aren't mine,

The word *friends* indicated the use of plural by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base of the inflection is only by removing the suffix -s of those inflectional plural forms. The base word of *friends* is *friend*. These words are noun. This form is used for the plural rule which produce a new word *friends* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *friends* is plural inflection word.

Data 18: Brown guilty eyes

Eyes is an inflection word. The word *eyes* indicated the use of plural by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base of the inflection is only by removing the suffix -s of those inflectional plural forms. The base word of *eyes* is *eye*. These words are noun. This form is used for the plural rule which produce a new word *eyes* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *eyes* is plural inflection word.

Data 19: ... one step forward and three steps back.

From the lyric above, the word *steps* indicated the use of plural by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base word of *steps* is *step*. These words are noun. This form is used for the plural rule which produce a new word *steps* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix –

s attached in order to make grammatically correct and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *steps* is plural inflection word.

Data 20: I read all of your self-help books.

The word *books* indicated the use of plural by attaching suffix -s to the end of the base word. The base of the inflection is only by removing the suffix -s of those inflectional plural forms. The base word of *books* is *book*. These words are noun. This form is used for the plural rule which produce a new word *books* and not change the meaning either word class. Suffix -s attached in order to make grammatically correct and do not change the part of speech of the base. Thus, *books* is plural inflection word.

The data in table 6 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely plural. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Base Word	Plural Affixes	New Word
suburb	-S	suburbs
friend	-s	friends
light	-S	lights
sign	-s	signs
car	-s	cars
yard	-s	yards
place	-s	places
sidewalk	-s	sidewalks
hand	-s	hands
butterfly	-ies	butterflies
eye	-s	eyes
week	-s	weeks
game	-s	games
question	-s	questions
jacket	-s	jackets
thank	-s	thanks
year	-s	years
new	-s	news
step	-S	steps
queen	-S	queens
song	-S	songs
book	-s	books
girl	-S	girls
body	-ies	bodies
kid	-S	kids
cloth	-es	clothes
photo	-S	photos
thing	-S	things
sound	-S	sounds
parent	-S	parents
sleeve	-S	sleeves
brother	-S	brothers
letter	-S	letters
hole	-5	holes
wing	-s	wings
cloud	-s	clouds
monster	-s	monsters

Table 6. Plural Inflection found in Sour album

6. Possessive

There are 2 data indicated using possessive type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of possessive affixes:

Data 21: I got my driver's license

Driver's is an inflection word. The word *driver's* is indicated the use of inflectional possessive form by attaching suffix –'s to the end of the noun, *driver*, to show the formation of inflection in possessive form which do not change the meaning either word class. Thus, *driver's* is possessive inflection word.

Data 22: In your *daddy's* nice car,

The word daddy's is indicated the use of inflectional possessive form by attaching suffix –'s to the end of the noun, daddy, to show the formation of inflection in possessive form which do not change the meaning either word class. Thus, *driver*'s is possessive inflection word.

The data in table 7 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely possessive. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

Table 7. Possessive Inflection found in Sour album		
Base Word	Possessive Affixes	New Word
driver	ʻs	driver's license
daddy	`S	daddy's nice car

7. Comparative

The writer found 3 data indicated using comparative type found in the song lyrics of *Sour* album. The following are some analysis of comparative affixes:

Data 23: She's so much *older* than me.

Older is an inflection word. The base word *old* is added by suffix *-er* to showing comparative which produces a new word *older*. The base word of *older* is *old*. These words are adjectives. Suffix *-er* do not change the part of speech of the base and not change the word class. Thus, *older* is comparative inflection word.

Data 24: ..., but don't be *happier*.

The base word *happy* is added by suffix *-er* to showing comparative which produces a new word *happier*. The base word of *happier* is *happy*. These words are adjectives. Suffix *-er* do not change the part of speech of the base and not change the word class. Thus, *happier* is comparative inflection word.

Data 25: Happier, prettier, jealousy

Pretty is added by suffix *-er* to showing comparative which produces a new word *prettier*. The base word of *prettier* is *pretty*. These words are adjectives. Suffix *-er* do not change the part of speech of the base and not change the word class. Thus, *prettier* is comparative inflection word. The data in table 8 also undergo the same analysis because they were of the same type, namely comparative. For more details, the data are presented in the table below:

I able c	raibuili	
Base Word	Plural Affixes	New Word
old	-er	older
happy	-er	happier
pretty	-er	prettier

Table 8. Comparative Inflection found in Sour album

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results and discussions above, it can be concluded that there are 7 types of inflectional affixes used in *Sour* album; third-person singular present inflection, past tense inflection, present progressive inflection, past participle inflection, plural inflection, possessive inflection, and comparative inflection. The writer found 135 total data; 16 data categorized into third-person singular present inflection, 37 data categorized into past tense inflection, 27 data categorized into present progressive inflection, 13 data categorized into past participle inflection, 37 data categorized into past participle inflection, 37 data categorized into plural inflection, 2 data categorized into possessive inflection, and 3 data categorized into comparative inflection. There are no superlative inflection used in *Sour* album song lyrics. Plural inflection is the most dominant type of inflectional affixes used in *Sour* album.

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