

CHAPTER 11

DERIVATIONAL VARIATION

In this chapter the researcher will analyze the eighth category which has been sub-divided into types, namely Derivational Variation. There are altogether 70 examples of Derivational Variation in the corpus. As this is a rather large corpus, the researcher will present a summary of the quantitative analysis of the data based on a qualitative description of all the examples of Derivational Variation. The entire qualitative analysis is found in Appendix B. Here the creative process is non-native affixation, whereby nouns, prepositions or other word classes are converted to verbs in ME through non-native affixation. Hence Derivational Variation can only be analyzed in one way, namely according to the formal nature of the Derivational Variation. This study has analyzed Derivational Variation into 7 types, namely:

- i. Non-native Abstract Noun
- ii. Non-native Personal Noun
- iii. Non-native Adjective
- iv. Non-native Superlative
- v. Non-native Adverb
- vi. Non-native Verb Creation
- vii. Non-native Discourse Marker

11.1 Quantitative Analysis of Derivational Variation

Table 11.1 shows samples of the above. Table 11.2 shows the total numbers and percentages of non-native words under each of the nine types. From Table 11.2 it can be seen that of all the types, Non-native Verb Creations form the largest group, namely 37.0% of the total number of examples. This is basically the creation of verbs from nouns or prepositions which is never converted in

this way in native usage, such as 'bicycling', 'paining' or 'onning'. These do not constitute variant forms of native derivatives but rather new non-native creations developed from non-native affixation of native root forms.

Table 11.1

Examples of Derivational Variation

Nature of Derivational Variation	Total Numbers	Sample ME Usage
Non-native Abstract Nouns :	18	busybodiness
Non-native Personal Nouns :	5	bluffer
Non-native Adjectives :	9	chocolatey
Non-native Superlatives :	2	bitterest
Non-native Adverbs :	9	heavy-heartedly
Non-native Verb Creations :	26	bicycling
Non-native Discourse Marker :	1	most/very importantly
Total	70	

Table 11.2

Types of Derivational Variation

Nature of Derivational Variation	Numbers	Percentages
Non-native Abstract Nouns :	18	25.7
Non-native Personal Nouns :	5	7.2
Non-native Adjectives :	9	12.9
Non-native Superlatives :	2	2.9
Non-native Adverbs :	9	12.9
Non-native Verb Creations :	26	37.0
Non-native Discourse Marker :	1	1.4
Total	70	100%

Yen(1990), referred to the same feature as 'Derivation of New Words from Existing English Words' and illustrated this with three ME words, namely 'horning', 'schooling' and 'marketing'.

The second largest type which constitutes 25.7% of the total is 'Non-native Abstract Nouns' which is basically the formation of abstract nouns through non-native derivations. Some of these are variant forms of native derivatives, such

as 'permanency'(permanence), 'pitiness'(pity) and 'recognition'(recognition). Others are new creations such as 'stickability', 'fellowshipping', 'toastmastering' and 'moisturization'. The word 'moisturization' was heard on a radio advertisement for a skin-care product, and its usage is probably limited to other advertisements of such skin-care products. It also seems to reflect the Malaysian need to create words which meet the needs of certain specific groups of people. An example is 'toastmastering' which was obviously coined by a Toastmaster to probably describe whatever it is that Toastmasters do together!

The other sub-categories which can be observed are 'Non-native Adverbs' and 'Non-native Adjectives', each of which constitute 12.9% of the total number of lexical items under Derivational Variation. An example of a 'Non-native Adverb' is 'hopingly' while a 'Non-native Adjective' heard on a TV advertisement was 'chocolatey'.

The other sub-categories are 'Non-native Personal Nouns'(7.2%), 'Non-native Superlatives' (2.9%), and 'Non-native Discourse Marker'(1.4%).