

## Word formation process of terms in COVID-19 pandemic

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### ABSTRACT

*The objectives of this research are to know the type and examples of the word-formation process of the terms that appear during pandemic COVID-19. This research uses qualitative research. From the result analysis, some types of word-formation processes include borrowing, compounding, blending, acronym, clipping, and multiple processes. In borrowing, for example, the words "Rapid test" and "Swab test". In compounding, for example, the words "handsanitizer, lockdown, coronacoma, coronaspeck and self-quarantine". In blending, for example, the words 'covid, covidiot, covidient, quarantini, infodemic, quaranteam, coronials, covexit, covidivorce, quaranteen and coroncation". In clipping, for example, the words 'sanny" and "iso". The word "sanny' comes from "hand sanitizer" and "Iso" comes from "isolation". In the acronym, for example, the initials WFH (Work from Home), PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), WFO (Work from Office), and PUI (Person Under Investigation). In multiple processes for example the words "handwashing", zoomboombing, coronababies, self-isolation".*

**Keywords:** word-formation process, morphology, terms, pandemic COVID-19

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### Introduction

The Corona pandemic, which lasted more than nine months, introduced the public to many new terms since March 2020. All of these terms are popular in English. Although not all people understood at first, the country's public slowly adapted to these foreign terms. Mostly, the words used to refer to the current pandemic situation (COVID-19). These terms are mostly derived from foreign languages such as English and are increasingly familiar to the public because they appear in various mass media. Upham (2020) also states that some common terms develop during Coronavirus.

During the earlier outbreaks, many of the words we used during the COVID-19 pandemic such as 'social distancing' or 'quarantine' were formed (Horobin, 2020). This modern language also aims to express people's fears about the biggest health problem in decades that we have ever experienced. It binds people together around a collection of cultural collective references—a type of "social glue." lexical.

Perhaps one of the biggest factors in Coronavirus terminology's spread is the fact that we're connected more digitally than ever. Instant access to social media is now an integral part of

our lives—and through a variety of social media outlets we share content with friends and family. The scale of our online connections means individuals now have far more opportunities to coin a new term and share it beyond their immediate local communities.

Established words like "self-isolating," "pandemic," "quarantine," and "lockdown" have increased in popularity, while coronavirus / COVID-19 neologisms are being coined faster than ever (Lawson, 2020). For example "covidiot" (someone ignoring advice on public health), "covidparty" (online parties via Zoom or Skype), and "covexit" (strategy to escape the lockdown). "WFH" (working from home) and "quaranteams" (online teams created during lockdown) help people cope with changing situations in their jobs. These examples are involved in the word-formation process.

According to Jackson & Amvela (2000, p. 69), the word-formation process means the different devices which use existing ones to build new words. Each word-forming process will result in a specific type of word being produced. The word-formation process consists of some processes, they are coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending,

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clipping, acronym, derivation, conversion, back-formation, and multiple-process, etc.

Marlina & Giri (2014, p. 147) states that coinage, borrowing, compounding, conversion, blending, clipping, backforming and alpha-betism are key word-forming processes. The process of word-formation sometimes involved more than one process (McGregor, 2015, p. 27). Word formation processes have characteristic patterns and peculiarities (Durkin, 2011). While, according to Yule (2006a, pp. 53–58), some process in forming words includes coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, backformation, conversion, acronym, derivation, prefix and suffix, and multiple processes.

This research is also related to previous studies about the word-formation process. The first, research was written by Luthfiyati et al. (2017) The study aims to identify the most common form of derivation terms that is used in the headline of ten education posts. Second, research from Sari (2018), the study aims to identify and evaluate the mechanism of word-formation used in social media, as well as to figure out the most prevalent kinds of word-formation processes. Third, research from Fatmawaty & Anggraini (2019), the study aims is to describe how English words are created and to identify types of processes of word-formation. Fourth, research from Marzita et al. (2013), the study aims to compare the types of word-formation from slang in the film.

The previous studies have differences with this research which focuses on the word-formation process. The previous studies focus on news' websites, social media, novel, and movie's script. Meanwhile, this research focuses on pandemic terms randomly collected from internet sources. Amid the 'popularity' of the pandemic COVID-19, there are several terms that appear. Sometimes, these terms make people or ordinary people confused, because of some terms related to technical matters in the world of health or various other scientific fields. Therefore, the objective of this research is to know the type of word-formation processes of the terms that appear during pandemic COVID-19.

## Methods

The design method in this research using qualitative research. Qualitative research can be used to explore new topics or understand

complex issues (Hennink et al., 2020, p. 11). It is suitable for explaining and understanding the issue or 'how' questions describing processes or behavior to address 'why' questions. This approach emphasizes phenomenal observation and focuses more on the substance of these phenomena's significance. The analysis in qualitative research is strongly influenced by the strength of the words and sentences used.

The technique of collecting data in this research by using document analysis. Document here is understood as written texts which serve as evidence for an event or fact to occur (Flick et al., 2004). Grady (1998, p. 24) states that documents can be useful in situational understanding and context setting. In this research, the data are taken from the mass media both electronic and mass - media, and social media related to the terms that appear during pandemic COVID-19.

The technique of analyzing data in this research used some steps, are: 1) Looking for some terminologies during the pandemic COVID-19 on the internet. 2) Classifying the terms into each word-formation process, 3) Describing the word-formation process, 4) Concluding the result of the analysis.

## Results and Discussion

Based on the findings of terms, some word-formation processes in the terms identified are borrowing, compounding, clipping, acronym, and multiple processes. The descriptions of each are presented below:

### Borrowing

Borrowing is the usual term for the process by which a language (or variety) takes from another language or variety new linguistic material (Durkin, 2011). While Hickey (2013) states that borrowing is the transfer of linguistic materials. Below the table of borrowing words:

**Table 1. Borrowing words**

Borrowing Words	Process
Rapid test	No word-formation process
Swab test	No word-formation process

The table above shows that there are some borrowing words, "Rapid test" and "Swab test". They are English borrowed words. These borrowed words have experienced changes in writing, The method of transferring a word from one language to be used in another is borrowing (also called lexical borrowing). The borrowed word is called a borrowing term, or a loan term (Nordquist, 2019).

### Compounding.

Compounding is the combination of two distinct words to produce a single form (Yule, 2006a, p. 54). The most popular word-forming method in English is compounding. It is also a composition, it is from the Latin language for "putting together." Compounds often can be written as a single word, hyphenated terms, and separated terms. Below is the table of compounding words:

**Table 2. Compound words**

Blending Words	Process
Handsanitizer	Hand + Sanitizer
Lockdown	Lock + Down
Coronacoma	Corona + Coma
Coronaspeck	Corona + Speck
Self-quarantine	Self + Quarantine

The table 2 shows that there are some borrowing words, which are "handsanitizer, lockdown, coronacoma, coronaspeck and self-quarantine". The descriptions as follow:

#### *Handsanitizer*

The word "handsanitizer" is known to be a word consisting of three morphemes. The two are free morphemes "hand" and "sanitize", and the last is the bound morpheme /-er/. It is difficult to break these three components further into smaller parts that have significance. This word-formation happens when playing free morpheme, it is always stated as a word, merging with the derivative maker and forming a new "handsanitizer" of words. This compound word is kind of left-headed since it defines the second stem stage. Additionally, this word is added to the English dictionary. The meaning of "handsanitizer" is a liquid or gel commonly used to reduce pathogens on the hands.

#### *Lockdown*

The word 'lockdown' has two morphemes,

'lock' and 'down'. Each can stand alone and has its meaning. Besides, they cannot split into smaller meaningful pieces. Thus, both can be mentioned as the word's morpheme. Therefore the word "lockdown" pronunciation is still the same as when it was a separate word "lock" and "down". This word has already been verified as a common word in English, as it occurs during the pandemic. "lockdown" means that the government and other countries enforced to prevent the spread of infection/pandemic from one person to another or to protect ourselves from others (Husain, 2020, p. 50).

*Coronacoma.* The word 'coronacoma' has more than one morpheme. The first is the free morpheme "corona", the second is the free morpheme "coma". It is so obvious because two free morphemes are 'corona' and 'coma,' the parts that can stand alone and have their meaning. Besides, they cannot split into smaller pieces that have meaning. Thus, both can be mentioned as the word's morpheme. The word "corona" in this case is a free morpheme that is combined with the other free morpheme "coma" and produces a new word "coronacoma". This word has already been verified as a common word in English, as it occurs during the pandemic. Meaning of "coronacoma" means the economic equivalent of a medically induced coma that deliberately shut down certain brain functions to give the patient time to recover (Krugman, 2020).

#### *Coronaspeck*

The word 'coronaspeck' has more than one morpheme. The first is the free morpheme "corona", the second is the free morpheme "speck". Therefore the word "coronacoma" pronunciation is still the same as when it was a separate word. This word has already been verified as a common word in English although it comes from Germany, as it occurs during the pandemic.

#### *Self-quarantine*

There is an example of compounding words in hyphenated terms. For example in the word "Self-quarantine". The word "self-quarantine" is a noun. The term comes from two morphemes of the word "self" and "quarantine". It is a method of compounding. The kind of compound word is a hyphenated form of making compound by using the punctuation of hyphen (-). The term "self-quarantine" is a popular term that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic spread to most

nations, so the citizens in a position to do so are encouraged to stay home to curb disease spread (Wikipedia, 2020).

### Blending.

It is part of one word that is stitched into another word without any regard for morpheme or lexeme boundaries (Eppler & Ozón, 2013, p. 54). Blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere, the most important thing is to create new words that are memorable and easy to remember by readers or listeners. Below the table of blending words:

**Table 3. Blending words**

Blending Words	Process
Covid	Corona + Virus + Disease'
Covidiot	Covid + Idiot
Covidient	Covid + Obedient
Quarantini	Quarantine + Martini
Infodemic	Information + Epidemic
Quaranteam	Quarantine + Team
Coronials	Corona + Millennials
Covexit	Covid + Exit
Covidivorce	Covid + Divorce
Quaranteen	Quarantee + Teen
Coronacation	Corona + Vacation

The table above shows that there are some blending words, they are "Covid, Covidiot, Covidient, Quarantini, Infodemic, Quaranteam, and Coronials". The descriptions as follow:

#### *Covid*

The term "covid" is a combination of the words 'Corona Virus Disease'. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as Covid refers to the words Corona (Co), Virus (Vi), Disease (D).

#### *Covidiot*

The term "covidiot" is a combination of the words "Covid" and "idiot". This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the second word "idiot" is shorted into "iot". The words "Covidiot" are a slang insult to a person who disregards safety measures or refuses public health advice during the pandemic (Jain, 2020). This statement is also supported by Karimi & Efendi (2020, p. 33) that this term appears for

those who ignore the call for social distancing or stay at home for a while to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### *Covidient*

The term 'covidient' is a combination of the words This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the second word "obidient" is shorted into "dient". A covidiot's opposite is a covidient or a person who follows all government regulations and regulations concerning the coronavirus pandemic (Jain, 2020).

#### *Quarantini*

The term "quarantine" is a combination of the words "quarantine" and "martini". This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "quarantine" is shorted into "quarant". While the second-word "martini" is shorted into "tini". The word 'Quarantini' is a general term for any drink consumed during the lockdown in the home (Jain, 2020). A quarantini is nothing more than a drink by cocktail people when they are at home under quarantine.

#### *Infodemic*

The term "infodemic" is a combination of the words 'information' and 'epidemic'. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "information" is shorted into "info". While the second-word "epidemic" is shorted into "demic". The term "epidemic" appears related to the distribution of information, some of it not so substantiated, contributes to anxiety or uncertainty associated with a crisis or controversy (Dupont, 2020).

#### *Quaranteam*

The term "quaranteam" is a combination of the words "quarantine" and 'team'. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "quarantine" is shorted into "quarant". While the word "team" remained. The term "quaranteam" is a small community of people forming their social network to quarantine together-and a good example of a technique for harm reduction. A quaranteam may be made of the people with whom one resides physically or the category may extend to include other trusted friends and family (DeGroot, 2020).

*Coronials*

The term "coronials" is a combination of the words "corona + millennials". This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "corona" is shorted into "coro". While the second-word "millennials" is shorted into "nials". The term "coronials" means that covered the expected baby boom in late 2020 (Burrige & Manns, 2020). This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "quarantine" is shorted into "quarant".

*Covexit*

The term "covexit" is a combination of the words "Covid" and "exit". This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "covid" is shorted into "cov". While the second-word "exit" remains. This term is related to the process of slowly easing and eliminating government-imposed public-life restrictions in response to the Coronavirus crisis.

*Covidivorce*

The term "covidivorce" is a combination of the words "covid" and "divorce". This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "covid" is shorted into "covid" or "covi". While the second-word "divorce" is shorted into "ivorce" or still "divorce". The term "covidivorce" is given to divorces that occur as a result of a stay at home order COVID-19 (Howard, 2020).

*Quaranteen*

The term "quaranteen" is a combination of the words "quarantine" and 'teen'. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "quarantine" is shorted into "quarant". While the word "teen" remained. Or, the first word "quarantine" remains "quarantee", then the second-word "teen" is shorted into a letter "n". According to Cambridge Dictionary (2020), the term "quaranteen" a teenager in the time of lockdown COVID-19.

*Coronacation*

The term "coronaction" is a combination of the words "corona" and 'vacation'. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word "corona" is remained. The word "vacation" is shorted into "cation". The term "coronaction" given to prolonged holiday homebound triggered by the

COVID-19 pandemic for others (Howard, 2020).

**Acronym**

The acronym is a new word that arises from the first letters of a set of other words (Yule, 2006b, p. 57). This can be seen from the extension of the acronym/abbreviation that three morphemes are constructing the word structure since there is no suffix and affix found. Hence it is verified that the structure has three morphemes. Below the table of the acronym:

**Table 4. Acronym words**

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Process</b>
WFH	Work from Home
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
WFO	Work from Office
PUI	Person Under Investigation

The table above shows that there are some acronym words, they are WFH, PPE, and WFO. The descriptions as follow:

WFH stands for "Work from Home" which in many countries has become the new norm (Jain, 2020). The method of creating this word is when the long term, consisting of three morphemes shortened by taking some of the first letters to represent the term. For this situation, "Work from Home" initialism WFH is short. The first letter W is the word "Work", the letter F is the word "from" and the last letter H is the word "Home".

PPE stands for "Personal Protective Equipment". The method of creating this word is when the long term, consisting of three morphemes shortened by taking some of the first letters to represent the term. For this situation, the "Personal Protective Equipment" initialism of PPE is short. The first letter P is the word "Personal", the letter P is the word "Protective" and the last letter E is the word "Equipment". It is specialized clothing and equipment used as a safeguard against health hazards including exposure through physical contact or airborne particles to infectious diseases.

WFO stands for "Work from Office". The method of creating this word is when the long term, consisting of three morphemes shortened by taking some of the first letters to represent the term. For this situation, "Work from Home" initialism WFH is shorted. The first letter W is the

word "Work", the letter F is the word "from" and the last letter H is the word "Office".

PUI stands for Person Under Investigation. The method of creating this word is when the long term, consisting of three morphemes shortened by taking some of the first letters to represent the term. The letter "P" for "person", "U" for "under", and "I" for "investigation".

**Clipping**

Clipping is reducing the element of blending that is noticeable in the process described. (Yule, 2006a, p. 57). There are two samples of this type, 'sanny' and "iso". The word "Sanny" comes from handsanitizer. This process is done by omitting the last syllable "tiser". The word "Iso" comes from "isolation". This process is done by omitting the last syllable "lation" letters after the consonant "o" and only the first syllable "iso".

**Multiple Processes**

It occurs when the formation of a new word involves some types of word-formation processes. Below the table of multiple processes in forming words:

**Table 5. Multiple Processes**

Multiple Process Words	Process
Handwashing	Hand + Wash + Ing
Zoombombing	Zoom + Bomb + Ing
Coronababies	Corona +Baby + es
Self-isolation	Self + Isolate + -ion
Covideoparties	Corona + Video + Party + -es

The table above shows that there are some blending words, they are "handwashing", zoomboombing, coronababies, self-isolation". The descriptions as follow:

*Handwashing*

The word "handwashing" is a noun. The term comes from the "hand" and "wash". It is a method of compounding. In the meantime, the word "handwashing" into nouns because the noun marker signed it. It is a phase of conversion. The second word, "washing" consists of a verb "wash" and a suffix -ing. It is the method of inflectional. Thus the "handwashing" word is composed of three processes. There is a method of

compounding and derivation. The word "Handwashing" means that the act of washing one's hands with soap (or similar materials) and water to remove any dangerous and unwanted substances that are attached to one's hands. Zoombombing". The word "handwashing" is a noun. The term comes from the "hand" and "wash". It is a method of compounding. In the meantime, the word "handwashing" into nouns because the noun marker signed it. It is a phase of conversion. The second word, "washing" consists of the verb "wash" and a suffix -ing. It is the method of inflectional. Thus the "handwashing" word is composed of two processes. There is a method of compounding and derivation. The word "Zoombombing" means that the intrusion into a video conference. Gunnell (2020) states that "Zoombombing" is when an uninvited person joins in a Zoom meeting Usually, this is done in an attempt to attain a few cheap laughs at the participants' expense. It is similar to the slang word "photobomb".

*Coronababies*

The word 'coronababies' has more than one morpheme. The first is the free morpheme "corona", the second is the free morpheme "babies", with the last is the bound morpheme -es which refers to a plural noun. It is difficult to break these three components further into smaller parts that have significance. This word-formation happens when playing free morpheme, it is always stated as a word, merging with the inflectional maker and forming a new "coronababies" of words. Thus the "coronababies" word is formed by the word "corona" + baby + -es" which suffix -es refers to the plural noun. Thus, the term "coronababies" is composed of two processes. There is a method of compounding and inflectional. Additionally, this word is added to the English dictionary. The meaning of "coronababies" means that the speakers wonder how 'coronababies' are the children born or conceived during the pandemic.

*Self-isolation*

The word "self-isolation" is a noun. The term comes from two morphemes of the word "self" and "isolation". It is a method of compounding. While the kind of compound word is a hyphenated form of making compound by using the punctuation of hyphen (-). But, in the second word "isolation", it happens the process of derivational by using the suffix -ion. The

combination of the word "isolate" and suffix "ion" to be "isolation". Thus the word "self-isolation" is composed of two processes of compounding and derivational. The word "Self-isolation" means that the way of creating a barrier between an infected person and a healthy one (Koley & Dhole, 2020).

#### *Covideoparties.*

The word "covideoparties" comes from the word with three morphemes, they are "covid + video + party". There are some multiple processes of forming this term. The blending applied. This blending tends to be done by taking word elements anywhere such as in the first word 'Covid' is shortened into "Co". Then, the process of derivational by using -s to form the plural noun in the word "parties" which is formed by the word "party" added by "-es". Thus, the word "covideoparties" is composed of two processes. There is a method of blending and inflectional. The term "Covideoparties" is coordinated with new video parties in response to the lockdown (Dupont, 2020).

#### **Discussion**

Word formation is the process of forming words, by adding a word suffix and forming words with other meanings by adding prefixes and suffixes. Besides, the process of forming words, by combining, cutting, summarizing, or borrowing from other languages to change the form of the word from its origin. In the terms during pandemic COVID-19, there is some type of word formation process, borrowing, compounding, blending, acronym, clipping, and multiple processes.

In borrowing, there is a process of transferring a word from one language to be used in another. For example the words "Rapid test" and "Swab test". They are English borrowed words. These borrowed words have experienced changes in writing, and some have not experienced changes in writing or are taken exactly like the original words.

In compounding, a process of two words (free morphemes) are combined to create a new word (commonly a noun, verb, or adjective). (commonly a noun, verb, or adjective). For example the words "handsanitizer, lockdown, coronacoma, coronaspeck, and self-quarantine". 1) The term "handsanitizer" is known to be a word consisting of more than one morpheme in it. The first is the free morpheme "hand", the second

is a free morpheme, and the last is the bound morpheme -r. Lockdown. 2) The term 'lockdown' has two free morphemes that are 'lock' and 'down'. 3) The term "Coronacoma" has two morphemes "corona" and "coma". 4) The term "Coronaspeck" has two morphemes "corona" and "speck". 5) The word "Self-quarantine" has two morphemes "self" and "quarantine".

In blending, there is a process of forming words by combining two or more words into one word. There is a tendency that in blending not all elements of the word that are abbreviated are represented. The elements of letters and syllables that are taken are only those that can make abbreviations that are pleasant to pronounce and pleasant to be heard and can be used as words. For example the words 'covid, covidiot, covidient, quarantini, infodemic, quaranteam, coronials, and covexit'. 1) The term "Covid" blends of Corona (Co), Virus (Vi), Disease (D). 2) The term "Covidiot" blends the words "Covid and idiot". 3) The term "Covidient" blends of the words "obidient" is shorted into "dient". 4) The term "Quarantini" blends the words "quarantine" and "martini". 5) The term "Infodemic" blends the words 'information' and 'epidemic'. 6) The word "Quaranteam" blends the words "quarantine" and 'team'. 7) The term "Coronials" blends the words "corona" and "millennials". 8) The term "Covexit" blends the words "Covid' and "exit". 9) The term "Covidivorce" blends the words "covid" and "divorce". 10) The term "quranteen" is a combination of the words "quarantine" and 'ten'. 11) The term "Coroncation" is combination of the words "corona" and 'vacation'.

In clipping, there is a process of shortening or reducing without altering the words' meaning. For example the words 'sanny" and "iso". The word "Sanny" comes from handsanitizer. The word "Iso" comes from "isolation".

In an acronym, there is a process of creating this word is when the long word consisting of three morphemes is shortened by taking some of the first letters to represent the new word. For example WFH, PPE, and WFO. WFH stands for "Work from Home". PPE stands for "Personal Protective Equipment". WFO stands for "Work from Office". Then, PUI stands for 'Person Under Investigation'. The abbreviations or acronyms are used concerning the current situation of COVID-19 (Asif et al., 2020).

In multiple processes, there is a process of involving some types of word-formation processes. For example "handwashing",

zoomboombing, coronababies, self-isolation". In the term "handwashing" and "zoomboombing", two processes involved, they are compounding and derivation. The term "coronababies" is composed of two processes. There is a method of compounding and inflectional. The term "self-isolation" is composed of two processes. There is a method of compounding and derivational. While in the term "coveideoparties" is composed of two processes. There is a method of blending and inflectional.

## Conclusion

Amid the 'popularity' of the COVID-19 corona, there are several terms that are always milling about in the middle. Sometimes, these terms make people or ordinary people confused, because some are too related to technical matters in the world of health or various other scientific fields. Word formation is how words are formed (the process of forming words) starting from word patterns, where they are formed, how words can be created, or vice versa so that they become words that have a meaning. Word formation also extensively discusses the origin of word formation based on the history of its use from century to century until it is commonly used today both in terms of function and how to use words in different usage styles.

Word formation is the process of forming words, by adding a word suffix and forming words with other meanings by adding prefixes and suffixes. Besides, the process of forming words, by combining, cutting, summarizing, or borrowing from other languages to change the form of the word from its origin. In the terms during pandemic COVID-19, there is some type of word-formation processes, they are, borrowing, compounding, blending, acronym, clipping, and multiple processes.

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