



Vidhyayana - ISSN 2454-8596

An International Multidisciplinary Peer-Reviewed E-Journal

[www.vidhyayanaejournal.org](http://www.vidhyayanaejournal.org)

Indexed in: Crossref, ROAD & Google Scholar

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## An analysis of free and bound morphemes in Alfred Tennyson's poem entitled "Marriage Morning"

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### Abstract

This research aims to know the free and bound morphemes in Alfred Tennyson's poem "Marriage Morning". This research uses a Descriptive Qualitative Method. The main source of this research data is one poem from Alfred Tennyson's entitled "Marriage Morning". In the descriptive method, the data collected is not numbers but the form of words. The data is in words containing free morphemes and bound morphemes in the poem. This analysis found that the overall results of Free and Bound Morpheme were as many as 151 data. Free Morpheme distribution found as many as 137 data (90.72%) and 14 of Morpheme Bound (9.28%). Morphemes are the smallest elements of meaning in a language. They are generally classified as free morphemes, which can follow as independent words or bound morphemes, which can't stand alone as words.

**Keywords:** Linguistics, Morphology, Morpheme, Free Morpheme, Bound Morpheme, Poem



## Introduction

Language is a form of communication that allows people to express their feelings, thoughts and ideas to others. It is an essential tool for human communication and interaction and plays an important role in shaping our culture, thoughts and behaviours. Languages are characterized by their unique set of symbols, grammar, syntax and vocabulary, enabling individuals to communicate effectively. Language is the skill to provide and comprehend both spoken and written. Language has a study about itself that is called linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It has a structure, use and evolution over time. Linguists study the many aspects of language, including sounds, meaning, grammar and discourse.

## What is Morphology?

Booij (2005) states that the sub-discipline of linguistics that deals with such patterns is called morphology. Morphology is one of the linguistic branches itself, which learns about wording or word construction. As stated by Yule (2010), morphology is the study of basic elements used in language. As is often in this definition by Bauer (2007), Morphology deals with the internal construction of words – not with their structure in terms of the sounds that make them up, but their structure where form and meaning seem inextricably matted. Therefore, the word cover is morphologically simple, and its only structure is phonological. At the same time, lover contains the smaller element of love and some further meaning related to the final <r> in the spelling. Another way to talk about this is to say that morphology deals with words and their meaningful parts.

Whereas in discussions about morphology, it cannot be separated from morpheme, which is the name of a little component with a meaning and grammatical significance. Morpheme is the root of a word. It is a word-building block. The definition of a morpheme cannot be decomposed into smaller parts that are meaningful or sign a grammatical function like a singular or plural number in the noun.



About morpheme, some linguists have classified morpheme into two parts: free morpheme and bound morpheme. A morpheme that, without it, is a relation to another morpheme can be directly used in speech. A free morpheme is an independent morpheme that can stand alone without having other morphemes. A morpheme that, without it, is a relation to another morpheme can be directly used in speech. A free morpheme is an independent morpheme that can stand alone without having other morphemes. In that case, the examples of morphemes are as follows: - fine, girl, like, etc.

Meanwhile, Bound morphemes cannot stand alone and might be connected to other morphemes. Morphemes are the opposite of free morphemes. The morphemes that cannot stand alone by themselves mean they can't exist independently, being attached to other morphemes. Examples are as follows: - es, ing, ism, un, etc. Here are the following words: combinations of free and bound morphemes: goodness, telling, does, cares, lived, etc.

A morpheme can be found in many literary works, like novels and short stories, and one of them is poetry. Poetry is a form of literary expression that often involves using language creatively and imaginatively. Poetry has many forms, including sounds, haikus, free verse, and more. It uses figurative language, such as metaphors, to convey emotional impact. According to Wordsworth (1800), poetry is the artistic expression of strong feelings, usually rhythmically, the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings recollected in tranquillity. According to Edgar Allan Poe (1999), the poetry of words or speech is the rhythmical creation of beauty; the only justice is taste. It does not pay attention to either obligation or truth. Poets can use precise prefixes or suffixes to create an assured rhythm or sound in the poem. They also play with the meanings of morphemes. Morphemes play an important role in poetry by allowing poets to creatively manipulate language to convey meaning, create sound and patterns, and engage the reader's imagination.

The significance of the study is related to why we discuss morphemes. Studying morphemes can be helpful to learners in cross-curricular word study. The study provides insight for future researchers interested in further broadening the scope of this linguistic analysis.



This research aims to know the free and bound morphemes used in Alfred Tennyson's poem "Marriage Morning."

## Method

The research uses a descriptive qualitative method. In the descriptive method, the data collected is not numbers but the form of words such as a sentence or description of something. The Source of this research is one poem by Alfred Tennyson entitled "Marriage Morning". The data is in words containing free and bound morphemes in the poem.

As Miles and Huberman (1984, 234) said, the data analysis comprises three concurrent flows of activity: data reduction, display data, and conclusion. The researcher's first step was collecting data by searching for the poem by Alfred Tennyson. After the data is collected, the next step is to select one of the poems by Alfred Tennyson. The next step is that the researcher presents the data by analyzing the data found following the division of the problem. The last step is to draw a conclusion based on what the researcher has previously analyzed.

## Results and Discussions

The researcher found some free and bound morphemes in Lord Alfred Tennyson's "Marriage Morning" poem.

**Table. 1**

| No | Data  | Free Morpheme | Bound Morpheme | Times |
|----|-------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| 1  | Light | Light         |                | 2     |
| 2  | So    | So            |                | 2     |
| 3  | Low   | Low           |                | 2     |
| 4  | Upon  | Upon          |                | 1     |



|    |         |       |     |    |
|----|---------|-------|-----|----|
| 5  | Earth   | Earth |     | 1  |
| 6  | You     | You   |     | 5  |
| 7  | Send    | Send  |     | 1  |
| 8  | A       | A     |     | 3  |
| 9  | Flash   | Flash |     | 5  |
| 10 | To      | To    |     | 3  |
| 11 | The     | The   |     | 11 |
| 12 | Sun     | Sun   |     | 1  |
| 13 | Here    | Here  |     | 1  |
| 14 | Is      | Is    |     | 3  |
| 15 | Golden  | Gold  | en  | 2  |
| 16 | Close   | Close |     | 1  |
| 17 | Of      | Of    |     | 7  |
| 18 | Love    | Love  |     | 4  |
| 19 | All     | All   |     | 2  |
| 20 | My      | My    |     | 5  |
| 21 | Wooring | Woo   | ing | 1  |
| 22 | Done    | Done  |     | 1  |
| 23 | Woods   | Wood  | s   | 2  |
| 24 | And     | And   |     | 9  |



|    |         |         |    |   |
|----|---------|---------|----|---|
| 25 | Meadows | Meadow  | s  | 4 |
| 26 | Where   | Where   |    | 2 |
| 27 | We      | We      |    | 3 |
| 28 | Hid     | Hid     |    | 1 |
| 29 | From    | From    |    | 1 |
| 30 | Wet     | Wet     |    | 1 |
| 31 | Stiles  | Stile   | s  | 3 |
| 32 | Stayed  | Stay    | ed | 1 |
| 33 | Be      | Be      |    | 1 |
| 34 | Kind    | Kind    |    | 1 |
| 35 | In      | In      |    | 2 |
| 36 | Which   | Which   |    | 1 |
| 37 | Met     | Met     |    | 1 |
| 38 | Vale    | Vale    |    | 1 |
| 39 | Lighten | Light   | en | 2 |
| 40 | Afar    | Afar    |    | 1 |
| 41 | For     | For     |    | 3 |
| 42 | This    | This    |    | 1 |
| 43 | Morning | Morning |    | 2 |
| 44 | Are     | Are     |    | 3 |



|    |        |        |     |   |
|----|--------|--------|-----|---|
| 45 | His    | His    |     | 1 |
| 46 | Star   | Star   |     | 1 |
| 47 | I      | I      |     | 3 |
| 48 | Am     | Am     |     | 1 |
| 49 | Coming | Come   | ing | 1 |
| 50 | Come   | Come   |     | 1 |
| 51 | By     | By     |     | 1 |
| 52 | Wood   | Wood   |     | 1 |
| 53 | Oh     | Oh     |     | 1 |
| 54 | Into   | Into   |     | 3 |
| 55 | Eyes   | Eye    | s   | 1 |
| 56 | Heart  | Heart  |     | 4 |
| 57 | Blood  | Blood  |     | 1 |
| 58 | Great  | Great  |     | 2 |
| 59 | Enough | Enough |     | 2 |
| 60 | That   | That   |     | 1 |
| 61 | Never  | Never  |     | 1 |
| 62 | Tries  | Try    | es  | 1 |
| 63 | O      | O      |     | 2 |
| 64 | Have   | Have   |     | 1 |



|    |         |         |    |     |
|----|---------|---------|----|-----|
| 65 | Heard   | Hear    | d  | 1   |
| 66 | Thorns  | Thorn   | s  | 2   |
| 67 | Briers  | Brier   | s  | 2   |
| 68 | Over    | Over    |    | 2   |
| 69 | World   | World   |    | 1   |
| 71 | End     | End     |    | 1   |
| 72 | It      | It      |    | 1   |
| 73 | Million | Million |    | 1   |
| 74 | miles   | mile    | s  | 1   |
|    | Total   | 137     | 14 | 151 |

Based on the results, the analysis of a poem entitled "Marriage Morning" by Alfred Tennyson found as much as 151 data, consisting of free and bound morphemes. There are 137 free morphemes found in the poem, which consist of Light, So, Low, Low Upon Earth, You, Send, A, Flash, To, The, Sun, Here, Is, Gold, Close, Of, Love, All, My, Woo, Done, Wood, And, Meadow, Where, We, Hid, From, Wet, Stiles, Stayed, Be, Kind, In, Which Met, Vale, Light, Afar, For, This, Morning, Are, His, Star, I, Am, Come, By, Wood, Oh, Into, Eye, Heart, Blood Great, Enough, That, Never, Try, O, Have, Hear, Thorn, Brier, Over, World, End, It, Million and mile.

There are 14 bound morphemes found in the poem, which consist of: - Golden, Wooing, Woods, Meadows, Stiles, Stayed, Lighten, Coming, Eyes, Tries, Heard, Thorns, Briers and Miles.





## Conclusion

Table: - 2

| Aspect     | Morpheme      |                |
|------------|---------------|----------------|
|            | Free Morpheme | Bound Morpheme |
| Total      | 137           | 14             |
| Percentage | 90.72%        | 9.28%          |

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the total number and percentage of free and bound morphemes in the Alfred Tennyson poem are: free morphemes are 137, or 90.72%, while bound morphemes are 14 or 9.28%. The data shows more free morphemes than bound morphemes in the poem. It shows that the most dominant morpheme is the free morpheme in the poem. Therefore, it can be said that free morphemes are more commonly found in Alfred Tennyson's entitled poem "Marriage Morning." This research can be an example and also a reference for students to learn more about the study of free and bound morphemes.



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Vidhyayana - ISSN 2454-8596

An International Multidisciplinary Peer-Reviewed E-Journal

[www.vidhyayanaejournal.org](http://www.vidhyayanaejournal.org)

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