Prefixes Between English and Albanian

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Abstract: *Processes of word formation are of great interest for many linguists since they reveal a lot about a language and its development throughout the years. Each process has its importance and degree of productivity in a language. However, as regards English and Albanian languages one of the most important word formation processes is affixation, including both prefixation and suffixation, since it is one of the most productive processes in both languages. In addition, prefixation is a word formation process where new words are created with the help of prefixes which are added to bases. Accordingly, the study aims to study some main preffixation issues both in English and Albanian. Thus, it will analyse prefixation and its main characteristics; prefixes, their characteristics and classifications in both languages by comparing and contrasting them. In order to achieve the aims of this paper a theoretical method was used. Thus, different books and online studies and articles were consulted. The findings suggest that there are both similarities and differences as regards the issues and characteristics raised about prefixation as well as prefixes. But there are more similarities rather than differences such as: some English prefixes have the same the meaning and usage as the Albanian prefixes.*

Keywords: Word formation, Prefixes, Prefixation

1. Introduction

1.1. General statement of the problem

Language is an important means of communication between people, in spoken or written form. Moreover, it can be said that language is in constant change and development due to social, cultural, economic, political, and scientific changes that happen to the society that speaks that language. Accordingly, these changes are best reflected on the lexical system of a language and those changes, of how those words are formed or have come to the system, can be best analyzed with the help of word formation. Hence, word formation refers to the way that new words are formed.

On the other hand, in the whole world may exist millions of languages and there may be similarities and differences between them. Those similarities and differences may be in different levels such as lexical, grammatical, syntactical or etymological. Therefore, a field of study which enables to draw out the similarities and differences between languages is contrastive analysis. Hence, with the help of contrastive analysis we are able to compare, contrast and find similarities between two languages in whatever level. Accordingly, the study will be focused on the grammatical level of language, more especially on the morphological level. Thus, it will study one of the types of word formation that is called prefixation, both in English and Albanian, since it is considered that there may be similarities and differences between these languages as regards this process.

The study is considered to be helpful for Albanian students who learn English as a second language, and also for English teachers and translators.

1.2. Aims of the study

The study's aim is to study prefixation in English and Albanian, and to point out the differences and similarities of this process in these two languages. In addition, the study will be realized theoretically. Therefore, the theoretical aspect will be realized by providing a theoretical description of different approaches of English and Albanian grammars and studies by different linguists. Hence, the study's main aims are:

- To provide a general overview of prefixation and its main characteristics, both in English and Albanian languages
- To provide an overview of English and Albanian prefixes, their main characteristics and classifications
- To compare and contrast prefixation issues between English and Albanian

1.3. Research questions

The study will try to shed some light on the issues raised above. Therefore, the research questions are:

1) What is prefixation and its main characteristics in English and Albanian?
2) What are prefixes, their characteristics and how are they classified?
3) What are the differences and similarities of this word formation process in English and Albanian?

2. Theoretical Description of Prefixation

In this part, it will be provided a brief history and description of contrastive analysis, since it is seen as a need to elaborate it. Then, in brief will be mentioned main types of word formation in Albanian and English. After that, the study will move on to the theoretical description of prefixation.

2.1. What is contrastive analysis?

The use of contrastive analysis (CA) to compare languages seems to be an old process, since it has been used many years before. Hence, language comparison has been used since 19th century, mainly in the description of foreign languages. In addition, contrastive analysis in its early stages was focused on the linguistic systems of languages such as grammar and lexicon but later on it started to focus more on the structure of the language discourse. Moreover, contrastive analysis investigates the differences between pairs of languages, Gast (2012).

On the other hand, according to James (1980), contrastive analysis is a branch of linguistics. It is aimed at producing

"inverted two-valued typologies and founded on the assumption that languages can be compared." However, Lado (1957) as cited in Wong & Dras (2009) states that the goal of contrastive analysis is to predict linguistic difficulties experienced during the acquisition of a second language. Therefore, predicted difficulties can be of great importance especially for learners. That is because prediction of difficulties creates or raises language awareness and in general it facilitates the learning of a foreign language. Hence, since a student learns the differences between his first language and the language he/she is learning then takes care not to make mistakes, e.g. an Albanian student learning English, if he/she knows that English has a specific word order (SPO), which is a different issue with his/her first language, then he/she will follow English rules and omit the Albanian ones. Therefore, less or no mistakes will be present on the speech or writing of that student regarding word order.

As regards CA's contribution, it can also be observed in the teaching of foreign languages. Therefore, teachers use contrastive analysis to ease their teaching and also the learning process of the students. Hence, when a teacher explains anything in a second language, if he/she is able to explain also the similarities and differences with the first language of learners, it will result in a better understanding of that particular phenomenon of language. Accordingly, König & Gast (2009) state that contrastive analysis has been integrated into teacher training programmes and course materials as cited in Gast (2012).

2.2. Types of word formation processes in English and Albanian

2.2.1. Word formation processes in English

Earlier it was mentioned that word formation deals with the formation of new words. However, it is not clear how these new words are formed and what materials are used to create those words. Therefore, Adejumo & Osunbade (2014) state that word formation is a process where new words are created from existing materials in a language, based on certain structures, semantic formulas and patterns. But, new words in a language are not only created with the materials or structures that exist in that language. Different materials, structures or complete words are borrowed from other languages in order to fill the gaps that a language may have or simply to enrich its vocabulary.

In addition, every language in the world has its own ways of how new words are formed or created. Those ways of word formation can be dominated or influenced by other languages, mainly from the languages of the same family. On the other hand, there can also be particular ways of word formation that a language has e.g. the use of particular affixes in the formation of new nouns. Accordingly, formation of new words through different word formation processes contributes in expanding the vocabulary of a language. As regards English language, its word formation was dominated by neo-classicism, mainly by Latin and Greek words, Quirk et al (1985, p.1522).

Except borrowing, which refers to the process whereby new words are formed by adopting words from other languages

together with the concepts or ideas they stand for, in English language there are four main types of word-formation, Quirk et al (1985, p.1520) They are: prefixation, suffixation, conversion, and compounding. Before moving on to explain each process independently, it should be made clear what a base and what an affix is. A base is a morpheme that can be free or bound and which carries the principal or basic concept, idea or meaning in a word, Zapata (2007). Whereas an affix is a bound morpheme which cannot stand alone so it is always found in combination with other forms and which is placed at the beginning or end of the base, Xhina (2013).

a) Prefixation: new words are created by this process by adding a prefix to a base, with or without the change of word class e.g. *un*happy, *im*possible, *im*mature, etc.
b) Suffixation: it is almost the same process with prefixation, but here a suffix is added at the end of a base, whereas the new word may or may not change the word class e.g. *accept*ance, *count*able, *comfort*able, etc.
c) Conversion: a word changes its word class without any change in its form e.g. *She bought a **book**. / We shall **book** a room in a hotel. Would you like to drink some **water**? / Could you **water** the flowers, please?*
d) Compounding: a new word is formed by adding a base to another base e.g. *ice-**cream**, table-**tennis**, frying-**pan**, etc.* [1]

Additionally, despite the before mentioned word formation processes in English, that are considered the most important ones, there are also some others such as: acronymy, clipping, blending, back-formation, and so on, Zapata (2007).

2.2.2. Word formation processes in Albanian

Albanian language falls in the group of Indo-European languages. However, Albanian linguists support the idea that Albanian language is a descendant language of old Illyrian language, Paçarizi (2008). Therefore, by knowing the etymology of the Albanian language, the origin of its words becomes clear.

On the other hand, in Albanian language are known these main processes of word formation such as: derivation with its subcategories, and composition (compounding), Demiraj (1967, p. 15-23). Hence, these processes will be described in brief according to this author.

1) Derivation: is a word formation process, where new words are created with the help of affixes. These words can be formed with prefixes or suffixes or both at the same time.
a) Prefixation: a prefix is added to a base to form a new word e.g. ***për**ndjek, **për**ballë, **tej**kaloj, etc.* In addition, according to Jashari & Çitaku (2011) usually there is no change in word class but there are cases when a word changes its word class due to the addition of a prefix.
b) Suffixation: a suffix is added to a base to form a new word. The new word may or may not change its word class, e.g. *çel**ës**, pjek**ës**, gazet**ar**, etc.*

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[1] Word formation processes in English that are given above are explained according to Quirk et al (1985, p. 1520, 1521).

c) Prefixation + Suffixation: a prefix and a suffix is added to a base at the same time in order to create a new word, e.g. *përballoj, përfytyroj, përfundoj, etc.*

d) Derived words without affixes: the base of a word, without any affix, is also used in the meaning of another word class. In this case, the new word may get morphological changes or spelling changes, e.g. *kripë-* emër (noun) *krip-*folje (verb)[2]

2) Composition (compounding): a composition is a new word created with the conjunction of two or more words, and whose meaning is derived from the words that constitute it e.g. *mirëqenie, atdhedashuri, kryeministër*, etc.

According to Gramatika e Akademisë (2002), except the before mentioned processes of word formation that Demiraj (1967) mentions, in Albanian language we also have conversion, nodosity (nyjëzimi), attachment (përngjitja)[3] and other combined processes. However, derivation is the most productive word formation process in Albanian language, Jashari & Çitaku (2011)

2.3. Characteristics of prefixes and prefixation in English language

As it was mentioned earlier prefixation is a word formation process where words are created by adding a prefix to a base. Those prefixes that are added to bases are known as derivational prefixes. They are called derivational prefixes because usually they do not change the word class of the word that they are attached to. Hence, words that are created from this process are also technically known as complex words, Adejumo & Osunbade (2014).

Even though the majority of linguists consider prefixation a derivational process according to Dimkar (2016) there are some others that consider prefixation as compounding, because they consider that a prefix has the same function as the first element of a compound word.

Furthermore, affixation is considered to be one of the most productive word formation processes in English language. However, if prefixation and suffixation are compared, then it is difficult to decide which one is more productive. But according to the number of prefixes it seems that prefixation is more productive since there are considered to be more prefixes than suffixes. Accordingly, OED registers 167 prefixes whereas Marchand (1969) claims that there are 65, as cited in Xhina (2013).

Additionally, it is generally known that prefixes modify the lexical meaning of the base that they are attached to. However according to Kabashi (2000, p 365) except meaning change there are some rare cases when prefixes change the word class of the word that they are attached to. Accordingly, Lexi (2010) as cited in Xhina (2013) mentions some examples of word class change in English language

such as *large-**en**large (Adjective-Verb), blaze- **a**blaze (Noun-Adjective).*

As regards the origin of English prefixes according to Quirk et al (1985, p. 1523) the majority of English prefixes have their origin from Latin, Greek and French. However, Kabashi (2010, p.365) mentions that there are also prefixes of English origin such as: *be-(**be**friend), by-(**by**stander), off-(**off**spring), fore-(**fore**arm), un-(**un**happy), mis-(**mis**shappen), with-(**with**stand).* Therefore, foreign influence or "neo-classical influence" had a great impact on the vocabulary of English language or better said on its word formation.

In addition, Xhina (2013) states that throughout the years there is an increase of the usage of foreign prefixes and as a result those prefixes have been totally incorporated in English language. Nevertheless, of particular importance are present day productive prefixes. Kabashi (2000, p 365) states that if a prefix can form a new word it is called "living or productive" and if a prefix can not form a new word it is called "dead or unproductive." Some examples of unproductive prefixes are: *for-* as in *for*get, forgive; *with-* as in *with*draw, *with*hold[4].

Moreover, prefixes can be attached to different word classes such as nouns, adjectives, or verbs but according Dimkar (2016) in Modern English prefixation is a characteristic of verb formation, which means that prefixes are mostly attached to verbs to give them a new or different meaning.

2.4. Classification of English prefixes

Prefixes can be classified into different groups according to different criteria such as: alphabetically, according to word classes that they are attached to and according to their meaning. However, here will be taken into account the classification according to Quirk et al (1952, p 1540) based on the meaning of prefixes. Therefore, prefixes can be: negative, reversative or privative, pejorative, prefixes of degree or size, prefixes of orientation and attitude, locative, prefixes of time and order, number and conversion prefixes. In the following part each type of prefixes will be elaborated separately. However, there are cases when a prefix is listed in more than one group due to the fact that some of them have two or more semantic meanings of syntactic functions, Kabashi (2000, p.366)

2.4.1. Negative prefixes
Some of the negative prefixes are *a-, dis-, in, non-, un-*. These prefixes can be attached to different word classes such as nouns, adjectives, verbs or participles but some of them are more characteristic with just one word class e.g. the prefix *a-* is usually attached to adjectives such as in the words: *amoral, asexual,* etc. As regards their meaning the prefiix *a-* has the meaning of 'lacking in' or 'lacking of' whereas the prefixes *dis-, in-, non-, un* mean 'not' or 'the converse of'. Some examples of the words created with these prefixes are: *dis**advantage, in**appropriate, non-smoker, etc.*

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[2] The above example is borrowed from Demiraj (1967, p. 18).
[3] Albanian terms are used in parenthesis for the sake of convenience

[4] The examples above are borrowed from Kabashi (2000, p. 365).

2.4.2. Reversative prefixes

Reversative prefixes are *de-, dis-, un-.* As the word reversative implies these prefixes have the meaning of 'reversing the action', 'depriving of', 'degrading', etc. These prefixes are usually attached to verbs, deverbal nouns, and denominal djectives e.g. *de*grade, *dis*continue, *un*do, etc.

2.4.3. Pejorative prefixes

Pejorative prefixes are: *mal-, mis-,* and *pseudo-.* They are usually combined with abstract nouns, verbs, participles, etc. The prefix *mal-* has the meaning of 'bad' or 'badly'; the prefix *mis-* has the meaning of 'wrong' whereas the prefix *pseudo-* has the meaning of 'false' or 'imitation'. Some examples of words formed with these prefixes are: **mal**function, **mis**understand, **pseudo**-legendary, etc.

2.4.4. Prefixes of degree and size

Prefixes of degree and size are greater in number. Some of them are: *arch-, sub-, hyper-, mini-, out-, super-,* etc. These prefixes are usually combined with nouns, adjectives and verbs. As regards their meaning some of them have the meaning of being 'supreme' or 'extreme' such as *arch-, hyper, etc;* whereas some others have the meaning of 'below' or 'little' such as *sub-, mini-,* etc. In addition, examples of words formed with the help of these prefixes can be mentioned e.g. **hyper**sensitive, **super**natural, **sub**conscious, etc.

2.4.5. Prefixes of orientation and attitude

Prefixes of orientation and attitude are: *anti-, counter-, contra-, pro-.* All of them except the prefix *pro-* have a negative meaning such as being 'opposite' or 'against' something or somebody, whereas the prefix *pro-* has the meaning of being 'for', 'on the side of', etc. These prefixes are usually combined with nouns, verbs, denominal adjectives. Some examples of the words created with these prefixes are: **anti**radical, **counter**act, **pro**-American.

2.4.6. Locative prefixes

Locative prefixes are: *fore-, inter-, sub, super-,* and *trans-.* As the name implies these prefixes tell the place or position of something. Therefore, the prefix *fore-* has the meaning of 'front' or 'front part of'; the prefix *inter-* has the meaning of 'between' or 'among' and so on. These prefixes are usually combined with nouns, adjectives, verbs, and denominal adjectives. Examples of new words created with these prefixes are: **fore**arm, **inter**national, **sub**marine, etc.

2.4.7. Prefixes of time and order

Prefixes of time and order are: *ex-, fore-, post-, pre-,* and *re-.* As regards time these can be classified into two groups, those that have the meaning 'before' or 'former' such as *ex-, fore-,* and *pre-;* and those that have the meaning of 'after' such as the prefix *post-.* We also have the prefix *re-* which has the meaning of 'again' or 'back'. In general these prefixes are combined with nouns, deverbal nouns, verbs, and denominal adjectives. Examples of words formed with the help of these prefixes are: **ex**-friend, **pre**-war, **post**-war, etc.

2.4.8. Number prefixes

Number prefixes are: *uni-, mono-, bi-, di-, tri-, semi-, demi-, poly-, multi-.* These prefixes are of Latin and Greek origin,

therefore their meanings derive from them too. Hence, *uni- or mono-* mean 'one'; *bi- or di-* mean 'two'; *semi- or demi-* mean 'half' and so on. These prefixes are generally attached to nouns and denominal adjectives. Examples of words created with these prefixes are: **uni**lateral, **bi**lingual, **multi**vitamin, etc.

2.4.9. Conversion prefixes

Conversion prefixes are *a-, be-, em-, en-.* The main function of these prefixes is to change the word class of the word that they are attached to. Therefore, the prefix *a-* is usually combined with verbs to produce adjectives e.g. *asleep;* the prefix *be-* is usually combined with nouns to produce adjectives and verbs as well as intensify the meaning of verbs e.g. **be**spectacled, **be**friend, etc; prefixes *em-* and *en-* are usually attached to nouns to produce verbs e.g. **em**power, **en**danger, etc.

2.5. Characteristics of prefixes and prefixation in Albanian language

Prefixation is a word formation process where new words are created with the help of prefixes. Therefore, a prefix is added to a base. As regards productivity, prefixation is considered to be one of the most productive processes in Albanian language. However, if compared with suffixation, it is not as productive as suffixation, Akademia e Shkencave të Shqipërisë (2002, p. 61). This may be due to the fact that the number of suffixes in Albanian language is greater than the number of prefixes. There are 170 suffixes and 68 prefixes, Xhuvani & Çabej (1962) as cited in Jashari & Çitaku (2011). Nowadays, prefixation's importance is particularly seen on the technical, scientific and journalism terminology.

Additionally, the prefix that is added to a word does not change the Lexico-Grammatical category of a word, but it just gives a different or new meaning. However, there are cases when the prefix changes the Lexico-Grammatical category or word class of the word such as cases when a noun becomes a verb e.g. *buzë- **për**buz (noun-verb), gjak - **për**gjak (noun-verb), burrë- **m**burr (noun-verb), faqe-**sh**faq (noun-verb)[5].*

On the other hand, as regards prefixes there are many of them that derive from prepositions and particles and that are considered very productive, e.g. prepositions: *mbi-, ndër-, në-, nën-, pa- ;* particles: *jo-, mos-, sapo-, porsa-[6].* Moreover, prefixation in Albanian language is closely developed with attachment (përngjitja) and composition (kompozimi). Therefore, sometimes it is impossible to make a distinction between these word formation processes.

Additionally, except Albanian or native prefixes there are also foreign or borrowed prefixes that Albanian language uses. Those kinds of prefixes are such as: *a-, anti-, de-, dez-, dis-, pro-, pan-, trans-, ultra-, etc,* and some of the words that are formed with the help of these prefixes are: *normal-**a**normal, infektoj-**dez**infektoj, harmoni- **dis**harmoni.* However, nowadays it is noticed a tendency to substitute

foreign prefixes with Albanian ones such as the following examples: ***kundër**ajror,* ***kundër**gaz (**anti**ajror,* ***anti**gaz),* ***ndër**kontinental,* ***ndër**molekular (**inter**kontinental, **inter**molecular),*[7] *etc,* Akademia e Shkencave të Shqipërisë (2002, p. 61-63).

Moreover, in Albanian language we have productive prefixes that are still used to create new words and unproductive prefixes that are not considered as prefixes anymore or are not used at all. According to Sejdini (2013) prefixes that are not productive anymore are: *f- **f**shij; g(ë)-**g**dhij; d(ë) **d**ëborë, **d**ëboj; n(ë)- **n**daj, **n**dez, **n**gordh,* etc. Besides, the author states that in Albanian language prefixes are usually attached to nouns, adjectives and verbs.

2.6. Classification of Albanian prefixes

Regarding the classification of Albanian prefixes according to Sejdini (2013) prefixes can be grouped into: real ('te miëfillta') and derived prefixes. Real prefixes are those that are only considered prefixes and also play the role of prefixes such as: *ç-, sh-, zh-, z-, m-, n-, stër-, ri-,* shpër-. Whereas derived prefixes are those that are derived from other words such as from prepositions e.g. *mbi-, më-, në-, nën-, për-, pa- e ndër-,* and from particles *jo-, mos-, sapo-, porsa-.* On the other hand, Uruçi (2013) classifies prefixes alphabetically. Hence, the prefixes that she mentions in her study follow the order: *a-, ç, dis-, lë-, mbas-, mos-, nën-, pa-, para-, për-, s-, stër-, sh-, shpër, xh-, z-.*

Moreover, by considering the classification and explanations of Uruçi (2013) and Xhina (2013) we will try to classify Albanian prefixes according to their meanings and also give explanations and examples as regards their usage with different word classes. In addition, there are cases when e prefix falls into more than one category. Accordingly, Albanian prefixes can be classified into:

2.6.1. Negative prefixes
Some of the prefixes that belong to this group are*: a-, dis-mos- ,pa-, zh-, shpër-, jo-, kundër-, etc.* As regards their meaning, these prefixes usually give an opposite or antonymic meaning to the base that they are attached. In addition, these prefixes are usually attached to nouns, adjectives, verbs etc. For example the prefix *mos-* is usually attached to adjectives and verbal nouns to give a negative meaning such as *besim- **mos**besim.* Other examples of words created with these prefixes are: ***a**moral,* ***pa**dituri,* ***jo**fetar, etc.*

2.6.2. Reversative prefixes
Prefixes that belong to this group are *zh-, ç, sh-, etc.* Apart from having a negative meaning these prefixes also have a 'reversative' meaning since it is considered that they reverse the action. Therefore, since they usually reverse actions it is understandable that they can be attached especially to verbs. Hence, some examples of words created with these prefixes are: ***ç**thur, **sh**paloj, **zh**bëj, etc.*

2.6.3. Prefixes of degree or size
In this group can be classified prefixes such as *nën-, stër, shpër, bashkë, mbi-,* etc. They can give the meanings of 'excessive', 'too little' or 'jointly, to the word that they are attached. These prefixes can be attached to nouns, adjectives and verbs. Accordingly, here are some examples: ***nën**vlerësoj, **mbi**vlerësoj, **stër**holloj, **bashkë**punëtor,* etc.

2.6.4. Locative prefixes
Locative prefixes are: *nën-, ndër-, për-, mbi-, para-,* etc. These prefixes tell the place or position where something or somebody is. They can be used with nouns, adjectives and verbs. Some of the examples are: ***nën**detëse, **ndër**veprim, **për**mbrenda, **para**dhomë,* etc.

2.6.5. Prefixes of time and order
Prefixes of time and order are *para- pas-, ri-,* etc. These prefixes tell when something or an action happens such as 'before', 'after' or 'again'. In addition, these prefixes are usually attached to nouns, adjectives and verbs such as in the examples: ***para**shikoj, **para**ardhës, **pas**dite, **ri**vlerësoj,* etc.

2.6.6. Conversion prefixes
In this group belong prefixes such as: *për-, sh-, s-,* etc. These are considered conversion prefixes because when they attach to some words they usually change the word class of that word e.g. noun to verb, adjective to verb, etc. Examples of converted words are: *dorë-**për**dor (noun-verb), i,e kuqe-**s**kuq (adjective-verb), faqe-**sh**faq (noun-verb),* etc.

3. An Overview and Comparison of Main Findings

The present study hypothesised that there may be similarities and differences as regards prefixation both in English and Albanian languages. Therefore, the issues related to prefixation were studied and it resulted that there are both similarities and differences as regards the characteristics of prefixation as well as prefixes. Thus in the following part will be presented some of the main findings.

First of all, in both languages prefixation is considered to be a derivational process where a prefix is added to a base in order to form a new word. In addition, usually prefixes do not change the word class of the word that they are attached to but there are cases in both languages when a prefix or prefixes change the word class of the word that they are attached to such as: *large-**en**large; buzë-**për**buz (See Characteristics of prefixes and prefixation).*

Another similarity between these two languages regarding prefixation is that in both languages prefixes generally attach to nouns, verbs and adjectives. However, it is noticed that in Modern English prefixes are mostly used with verbs, therefore new verbs are created with the help of prefixes.

On the other hand, as regards productivity prefixation is considered one of the most productive word formation processes together with suffixation, in both languages. However, if compared with suffixation it can be said that prefixation in English language is more productive than suffixation whereas in Albanian language it is the opposite. Hence, it can be concluded that prefixation is more

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[5, 6, 7] The above examples are borrowed from Akademia e Shkencave të Shqipërisë (2002, p.61- 63)

productive in English rather than in Albanian and this is due to the fact that English has more prefixes than Albanian language. English has 167 prefixes whereas Albanian language has 68, *(See Characteristics of prefixes and prefixation).*

In addition, both languages use prefixes of native and foreign origin. However, in recent years it is noticed an increased usage of foreign prefixes in English language whereas in Albanian language it is noticed a tendency to avoid foreign prefixes and use the native ones instead.

Moreover, both languages have productive and unproductive prefixes. Productive prefixes are those that can still form new words and which have been studied in the previous part *(See classification of prefixes)*, whereas unproductive are those of old origin or those that are not used any more as prefixes. Hence, in English language examples of unproductive prefixes are: *for-* and w*ith-,* whereas in Albanian language are: *f-, g(ë), d(ë),n(ë).*

Additionally, from the studies that were consulted it can be concluded that English prefixes are classified according to different criteria, such as: alphabetically, according to the word classes that they are attached and according to their meaning. However, the last classification, according to meaning can be considered the most important one since Quirk et al (1985) follow this criterion for the classification of English prefixes. Conversely, it seems that Albanian linguists do not consider very important the classification of prefixes according to their meaning, since there was no such classification on the studies consulted. Therefore, the present study tried to classify Albanian prefixes according to their meanings. However, studies that were consulted classify Albanian prefixes: alphabetically, and according to derivation: real or non-derived (të mirëfillta) and derived.

Last but not least, if examples of words created with the help of prefixes are compared by translating them from English to Albanian, it can be seen that there are more cases of corresponding rather than non-corresponding words that are created with the same prefixes and that have the same meaning. Hence, here are some examples when English prefixes have the same meaning and usage as the Albanian prefixes such as: the English prefix *under-* attached to the word *estimate* creates **under**estimate as the Albanian prefix **nën-** attached to the word *vlerësoj* that creates the word **nën**vlerësoj; the English prefix *fore-* attached to the word *see* creates the word **fore**see as the Albanian prefix *para* attached to the word *shikoj* that creates the word **para**shikoj; the prefix *co-* attached to the word *worker-* creates the word **co**-*worker* as the Albanian prefix *bashkë-* attached to the word *punëtor* that creates the word **bashkë**punëtor, and so on.

On the other hand, there are some cases of English prefixes that do not correspond with Albanian ones such as: **mal**treat, **mal**nutrition, **mis**inform whereas in Albanian language they are **keq** trajtoj, **keq** ushqyerje, **keq** informoj where the word *keq (bad)* is not a prefix but an adverb. Also the words **sub**way and **en**danger created with the help of prefixes *sub-* and *en-,* if translated into Albanian language *subway* means *metro* or *tunel*, whereas *endanger* means *rrezikoj,* do not

correspond with Albanian since in Albanian language there is not any prefix used.

4. Conclusion

In general, prefixation is considered to be a word formation process where new words are created with the help of prefixes which are added to bases. Conversely, this study investigated in deep the process of prefixation, by providing definitions and examples of it; it elaborated its main characteristics; it elaborated the characteristics of prefixes and their classifications; it classified Albanian prefixes according to their meanings; it compared and contrasted the main characteristics of this process both in English and Albanian and it found that there are more similarities rather than differences between these two languages as regards prefixation.

4.1. Limitations

Even though, the study's main aims were met, it is clear that it has some flaws. Therefore, due to time constraints it was impossible to use and analyse any corpus e.g. any book translated from English to Albanian or vice versa, which would give a possibility to see how prefixation is realized in translation.

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