

THE ALLOMORPHY IN ENGLISH WORDS: MORPHOLOGY AND PHONOLOGY INTERRELATED APPROACH

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Abstract

The article aims to analyze which allomorphs occur more accurately in English and what factors determine them. The problems that the researchers examine enable English learners and readers to pronounce English words, in this case, English morphemes. The theory employed by the researchers is morphophonemics, dealing with how morphemes alter their appearance or pronunciation in response to the sounds that surround them in a given piece of content. The approach or method that the researchers use in this article is descriptive qualitative method based on the data. The findings that the researchers come across are as follows: (a) the definitive article, (b) the definitive article, (c) Derivation, (d) Irregular verbs, (e) Past tense marker (-ed), (f) Present tense morpheme, (g) Plural noun markers, (h) Possessive markers. It can be seen that the shape or pronunciation of an English word depends on the linguistic environment in which it occurs, and it is obvious that morphophonemic change involves not only replacing but also changing the phonological shape of a morpheme. Based on the data, the researchers find that there are two basic types of allomorph, such as morphophonemic changes and suppletion. The researchers also attend to the theory of Pike, stating that sounds tend to be influenced by their environments.

Keywords: *lexical; morphology; phonology; suppletion; morpheme; linguistic environment and morphophonemics; allomorph*

1. Introduction

Sometimes a morpheme has more than one shape (pronunciation), depending on the environment in which it occurs. A morpheme's shape may be influenced by sounds in the area, the type of stem it is linked to, or other conditioning factors. The systematically distinct shapes of a morpheme are called its allomorphs. When a morpheme changes its shape in response to the sounds that surround it in a particular context, the variation is called morphophonology, and the patterns that describe the appearance of the allomorphs are called morphophonemic rules. Morphophonemics can also be thought of as the interface between phonology and morphology. Phonological rules specify the pronunciation of sounds in a particular environment.

The purpose of the article is to improve the pronunciation of English words, especially for English beginners, English teachers, or even English lecturers. The problems of this article based on the data are to determine the shape of the morpheme in each

environment, for example, the plural morpheme has three forms: /s/, /z/, and /ɪz/, and why they are like this depends on their phonological environment.

Another way to look at variants is to say that English morphemic variants alternate between /s/, /z/, and /ɪz/, which are three different alternatives (Matthew, 1974: 85). Change is usually studied in terms of the kind of conditioning it produces. For example, the English plural variants mentioned above are phonologically determined. These follow the same rules as the present variant of the possessive third-person singular -s and -es (Bloomfield, 1933: 211). However, phonology is considered grammatical or morphological because it has nothing to do with whether a past participle ending in "en-" or "ed" ends in "worked" or "showed".

2. Literature Review

O'Grady, et al. (1980) state that the allomorphs of the English plural morpheme provide a typical example of a phonologically conditioned allomorph, while Payne (2006: 63–65) states that the systematically distinct shapes of a morpheme are called its allomorphs. The researchers focus on morphophonemic rules that specify the pronunciation or the shape of a morpheme in context once a morphological rule has already been applied. There was a particular title already written by another author that also used descriptive qualitative elements by emphasizing word stress and segmental features called sentence intonation. However, the researchers only focus on morphophonemic rules that cause lexically conditioned allomorph, morphologically conditioned allomorph, phonologically conditioned allomorph, and suppletion. The occurrence of allomorphs is influenced by the environment itself. The environment in this case relates to the linguistic environment.

2.1 The Allomorph Etymology

The term allomorph is derived from the Greek '*morphe*' which means *form, or shape*, and '*allos*' which means *another, or different*. Thus, allomorph means a different form (shape), or technically, in linguistics, it is called morpheme alternants (Bussman, 1996). The classification of morphs as allomorphs or tokens of a particular morpheme is based on (a) *similarity of meaning* and (b) *complementary distribution*: for example, [s], [z], and [ɪz / əz] considered allomorphs of the plural morpheme. If the phonetic form of the allomorph is determined by the phonetic environment, then it is *a phonologically conditioned allomorph*.

2.2 Allomorphs All About

If the word **dog** is added to the set of **cats**, **rats**, and **bats**, two further observations can be made: The first is that the final **s** in **dogs** means "plural" just as the final **s** in each of **cats**, **rats**, and **bats** means "plural". The second is that this **s** is realized as /z/ in **dogs** but as /s/ in the other three words. If the word **judges** is added to the list, the "plural" meaning is now realized by /əz/, **not just** by /z/ alone. Therefore, the "plural" morpheme appears in at least three different phonemic shapes: /s/, /z/, and /əz/. These different phonemic shapes of a morpheme are called the **allomorphs** of the morpheme. The various allomorphs of a morpheme occur in complementary distribution with each other, and each appears in a different environment. Allomorph can be studied in terms of three conditions, such as phonologically conditioned allomorph, morphologically conditioned allomorph, and lexically conditioned allomorph, as described below.

Phonologically Conditioning Allomorphs
(Present and past tense allomorphs)

In cats, dogs, and judges, the /s/ allomorph of the "plural" morpheme occurs after a /t/, the /z/ allomorph follows a /g/, and the /z/ allomorph follows a //. Allomorphs are referred to as being phonologically conditioned when their distribution can be explained in terms of their phonemic contexts. The simultaneous distribution of the English "possessive" (cat's) and verb "third person" (taking) morphemes, as well as the English "plural" and its allomorphs, can be economically explained. These allomorphs are homophonous and, in general, phonologically conditioned. The usual allomorphs of the English "plural", "possessive" and "third person" morphemes are /əz/, which occur after /s š č z ž ĵ/ (or after sibilants), /s/, which occurs after the remaining voiceless consonants like /p t k f θ/, and /z/, which occurs elsewhere like /b,d,g,v,ð, i/. When the plural morpheme is added to church /čəɹč/, the result is /čəɹčəz/, when the "possessive" morpheme is added to snake /Sneik/, the result is /sneiks/, and when the "third person" morpheme is added to beg /bɛg/, the result is /bɛgz/. It happens like this because the words end with voiceless and voiced consonants. It can be stated that the distributions of the phonologically conditioned allomorphs of the "plural", "possessive", and "third person" morphemes of English are as follows:

“ plural” “possessive”, “third person”

/əz/ after sibilant consonants (coronal stridents)

/s/ after voiceless consonants

/z/ after voiced consonants

/ɪd/ or /d/, which occur after /t,d/, /t/, which occur after the remaining voiceless consonants, and /d/, which occurs elsewhere, are the typical allomorphs of the English "past tense" and "past participle" morphemes that occur within verbs, for example in *baked*. The most prevalent and effective type of conditioning of morphemic variations in languages seems to be phonological conditioning. As stated previously, sometimes a morpheme has more than one shape, depending on the environment in which it occurs. A morpheme's shape can be influenced by sounds in the area, the type of stem it is linked to, or other conditioning factors. The systematically distinct shapes of a morpheme are called its allomorphs. A morpheme can be a word, such as a hand, or a meaningful part of a word that cannot be divided into smaller meaningful parts, such as -ed for "looked". A morpheme is therefore often defined as the smallest part of speech with a grammatical function. A morpheme is also defined as a combination of sound and meaning. Morphs are physical forms that represent morphemes in a language. The term morph is therefore sometimes used to refer to the phonological realization of a morpheme. For example, the English past tense morpheme that is spelled **-ed** has various morphs. It is realized as [t] after the voiceless [p] of **jump** (of **jumped**) as [d] after the voiced [l] of **repel** (of **repelled**), and as [ɪd] after the voiceless [t] of root or the voiced [d] of **wed** (of **rooted** and **wedded**). These morphs are called **allomorphs or morpheme variants**. In this case, the appearance of one morph over another is determined by the voicing and place of articulation of the final consonant of the verb **stem**. The **stem** is that part of a word that is in existence before any inflectional affixes. For example:

1) <u>Noun Stem</u>	<u>Plural Suffix</u>
Cat	- s
Worker	- s

In the form of the word **Cats**, the plural inflectional suffix -s is attached to the simple

root **cat**, which is the bare root, i.e., the irreducible core of the word. In **workers**, the similar substitution suffix **-s** comes after a slightly more complex stem consisting of the root **work** plus the suffix **-er**, which is used to form a genitive, genitive verb word (with the meaning "the one who performs the action indicated by the verb", e.g., **singer, fighter, dancer**, etc.). Her **work** is the *root*, but **the worker** is the **stem** to which **-s** is attached.

A **base** is any unit whatsoever to which affixes of any kind can be added. The affixes attached to a **base** may be inflectional affixes selected for syntactic reasons or derivational affixes which alter the meaning or grammatical category of the **base**. In other words, all **roots** are **bases**. **Bases** are called **stems** only in the context of inflectional morphology.

Morphological Conditioning of Allomorphs

In pairs such as man-men, child-children, and deer-deer, in which the second item can be said to contain the "plural" morpheme, the variation, if any, between the two forms in terms of phonemic environments cannot be stated. Instead, this must be referred to the morphemes "**man**", "**child**" and "**deer**", or to their phonemic *shapes* (*/mæn/*, */tʃaɪld/*, and */diːr/*), and specify the allomorph of the "plural" morpheme separately for each. This kind of variation among allomorphs is called morphological conditioning. The morphologically conditioned allomorphs of a morpheme are regarded as irregular in contrast with the phonologically conditioned allomorphs, which are regarded as regular. *Men, children, and deer* are **therefore irregular English** plurals, just as are *alumni, criteria, mice, women, oxen, and strata*. The "**Past Tense**" morpheme also has **irregular allomorphs**, as in *drank, brought, swam, was, had, put, took, fled, built*, and so on, likewise, the "**Past Participle**" morpheme has **irregular allomorphs**, as in *drunk, brought, swum, been, broken, stood, put*, and so on.

In stating the distributions of the allomorphs of morphemes such as "**plural**", "**past**" and so on, it is usually stated that the morphologically conditioned allomorphs come first and then the phonological conditioning environments in optimal order. The result is that "exceptions" to general rules are stated first, the narrowest phonologically conditioning environments next, and finally the most regular, or general, allomorph. The last variant may sometimes even be regarded as the phonemic "norm" of the allomorph—the most general case.

Morphophonemics (morphophonology)

Morphophonemics or morphophonology refers to the changes in the shape of morphemes in different environments. A familiar example of this is **the indefinite article** in English:

2) A dog	An apple
A man	An orchid
A bus	An elephant
A ticket	An umbrella
	An honest man

Since the article is always present before vowels and before consonants, it is simple to determine which form would be used in any given circumstance. In other words, the phonological shape of the word that comes after it completely determines the article's form. The word phonetic or phonology here is important since the distribution of morph may be determined by vowels or consonants before an indefinite article. Other changes occur in purely phonological environments, as in the **regular plural suffix** in English, which has the form **[iz]** after *sibilant sounds* such as (**s, z, ʃ, ʒ, ʒ**), the form **[s]** after voiceless

consonants (other than s, š, č), and the form [z] in all other environments. These variants are called phonological variants or phonological alternants because the choice among them is determined by phonological rules.

Other allomorphs are found in the **definite article** as given below.

3) [ðə] Question	[ði] Answer
[ðə] Book	[ði] Author
[ðə] Fence	[ði] Idea

In isolation (it is pronounced) [ði] from the data above, the **definite article** has two *morphs*, [ðə] and [ði]. Each article has a third, stressed variant when pronounced alone (or occasionally when speakers pause, as in I saw a..... a..... the unicorn). These are [eɪ] and [i], respectively. Allomorphs are those distinct morphs that realize the same morpheme, and allomorphy is the phenomenon where different morphs realize the same morpheme.

Allomorphy is also frequently found in English derivation, and both **bases** and **affixes** can be affected by it.

4) <i>Explain</i>	<i>Maintain</i>	<i>Courage</i>
<i>Explanation</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>	<i>Courageous</i>
<i>Explanatory</i>		

To make things more transparent, try to look at the actual pronunciations given in phonetic transcription in (5) below. Primary stress is indicated by a superscript prime preceding the stressed syllable, and secondary stress by a subscript prime preceding the stressed syllable.

5) [ɪk ^ʰ spleɪn]	[meɪn ^ʰ teɪn, mən ^ʰ teɪn]	[kʌrɪdʒ]	[ɛkspləneɪʃn]
	[meɪntənəns]	[kə ^ʰ reɪdʒəs]	
[ɪk ^ʰ splænətəri]			

From the data, it is described that the allomorphy of the **bases** in (4) and (5) The pronunciation of the base EXPLAIN varies according to the kind of suffix attached to it. It started with attachment –ation, which causes three different effects. **First**, stress is shifted from the second syllable of the **base** plain to the first **syllable of the suffix**. **Second**, the first syllable of the **base** is pronounced [ɛk] instead of [ɪk], **and, third**, the first syllable of the **base** receives secondary stress. The attachment of –atory to explain leads to a different pronunciation of the second syllable of the base ([æ] instead of [eɪ]). Similar observations can be made concerning **maintain** and **courage**, which undergo vowel changes under the attachment of –ance and –ous, respectively. In all cases involving affixes, there is more than one base allomorph, and the appropriate allomorph is dependent on the kind of suffix attached to it. It can be stated that the allomorphy in these cases is **morphologically conditioned** because it is the following morpheme that is responsible for the realization of the base. Furthermore, it is seen that there are not only obligatorily bound morphemes, i.e., affixes, but also obligatorily bound morphs, i.e. specific realizations of a morpheme that only occur in contexts where the morpheme is combined with another morpheme. Explain thus has a free allomorph, the morph [ɪk^ʰspleɪn], and several bound allomorphs, [ɛksplən] and [ɪk^ʰsplən].

It is reiterated that allomorphs are different variants of the same morpheme. The alternation is referred to as being phonologically conditioned if the decision of which allomorph occurs in which context can be predicted based on phonological patterns, as in

(1-3). The alternation is referred to as being morphologically conditioned if the allomorph chosen is essentially random and must be taught word by word, as in examples 4–5. The examples in paragraph (6) below demonstrate lexically conditioned language.

Base Form	Past Participle
<i>Give</i>	<i>Given</i>
<i>Take</i>	<i>Taken</i>
<i>Hide</i>	<i>Hidden</i>
<i>Bite</i>	<i>Bitten</i>
<i>Know</i>	<i>Known</i>
<i>Live</i>	<i>Lived</i>
<i>Bake</i>	<i>Baked</i>
<i>Guide</i>	<i>Guided</i>
<i>Sight</i>	<i>Sighted</i>
<i>Owe</i>	<i>Owed</i>

Two main types of phonologically conditioned allomorphs are possible. When a phonological process leads to a change in form, the process is referred to as morphophonemic or morphophonology. The term "suppletion" refers to a process in which one allomorph merely replaces another, which is a change in the form that cannot be categorized as a phonological process.

Lexically Conditioning Allomorphs

In other cases, the choice of the allomorph may be lexically conditioned; that is, the use of a particular allomorph may be obligatory if a certain word is present. This can be seen in the realization of the plural in English. The plural of *ox* is not *oxes* but *oxen*, although words that rhyme with **ox** take the expected /ɪz/ plural allomorph (cf /faksɪz/ 'foxes' and /baksɪz/ 'boxes'). The choice of the allomorph **-en** is a lexically conditioned allomorph. It is dependent on the presence of the specific noun **ox**.

Finally, there are a few morphemes in English whose allomorphs *show no phonetic similarity*. A classical *example* of this is provided by the forms *good/better* which both contain the lexeme *good* even though they do not have even a single sound in common. Where allomorphs of a *morpheme are phonetically unrelated*, this refers to 'suppletion' (Katamba, 1993).

Think about the degree-related inflection paradigm. Adjectives are used in English, as shown in (7). The erroneous comparative and superlative forms for *good* and *bad* appear to have absolutely nothing in common with the fundamental (positive) form. *Better* and *best* do not contain any trace of the root form *good*, unlike such irregular plural forms as *ox/oxen*, *child/children*, *criterion/criteria*, *alumnus/alumni*, *datum/data*, etc., in which the original root can still be seen in the plural form.

7)	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
	<i>Big</i>	<i>Bigger</i>	<i>Biggest</i>
	<i>Fast</i>	<i>Faster</i>	<i>Fastest</i>
	<i>Funny</i>	<i>Funnier</i>	<i>Funniest</i>
	<i>Great</i>	<i>Greater</i>	<i>Greatest</i>
	<i>Good</i>	<i>Better (gooder)</i>	<i>Best</i>
	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Worse (badder)</i>	<i>Worst</i>

An alternation like *good/better/best*, in which the inflectional paradigm for a certain word involves more than one root form, has traditionally been referred to as **suppletion**. Other examples in English include the irregular verb forms *go-went* and *am-is-are-was-were*. These additional forms of the root word cannot be derived or predicted by any normal phonological rules but must be listed in the word's lexical entry.

Total suppletion occurs primarily as a marker of inflectional categories and rarely in the derivational process. It would be quite challenging to distinguish suppletive stems as belonging to the same morpheme because derivational morphology frequently exhibits semantic irregularity and does not establish paradigms. On semantic grounds, it could be tempting to claim, for instance, that killing is the causal form of death or that dropping is the causative form of falling. However, there is no proof that these form pairs are connected morphologically.

3. Research Method

The method used in this article is the descriptive qualitative method due to the fact that the findings in the article are concerned with morphophonemic rules because, from morphophonemic rules, we can classify that there are 4 types of allomorphs, such as lexically conditioned allomorphs, morphologically conditioned allomorphs, phonologically conditioned allomorphs, and suppletions (Hadari & Mini, 1996: 73). The researchers focus on the four aspects because, from a few points of view, phonology and morphology are interrelated with one another depending on the context in the linguistic environment. From the 4 aspects of allomorph, the researchers find that there are 8 types of occurrences of English allomorph, as described below:

- a. In the definite article (A and An)
- b. The definite article (the [ðə] is pronounced after consonants, and [ði] is pronounced after vowels or sounds like vowels.
- c. Derivation (bases and affixes)
- d. Irregular verbs
- e. Past tense marker (-ed)
- f. Present tense
- g. Plural noun markers
- h. Possessive/genitive marker

3.1 Data Analysis

The background of allomorph is the relationship between phonology and morphology. The analysis of the data in this research is concerned with morphophonemic rules because, from morphophonemic rules, we can see the interrelationship between morphology and phonology in a linguistic environment. The researchers find present tense allomorph, past tense allomorph, possessive allomorph, etc. These phonological aspects are the background of this study; the relationship between phonology and morphology.

3.2 The Occurrences of Allomorph in English

The occurrences of allomorph can be found in present tense allomorph, past tense allomorph, definite and indefinite, possessive allomorph, suppletion, etc. These are the focus of this research. As previously stated, suppletion is the process of swapping out one allomorph for another. Morphophonemic modification entails altering a morpheme's phonological shape rather than replacing it. A change in one or more phonemes is what is

known as a morphophonemic process.

Triggered by the phonological properties of a neighboring morpheme, a very familiar example occurs in the suffix that marks regular plurals in English.

Plural noun markers

8) Plural nouns

Cat	-s	Dog	-z	Kiss	-iz
Book	-s	Bed	-z	Wish	-iz
Map	-s	Star	-z	Rose	-iz
Tusk	-s	Hall	-z	Judge	-iz
		Cow	-z	Church	-iz
		Boy	-z		

In linguistic environment as seen in (8), there are various alternative ways to denote English plural nouns. The choice between the plural suffix's alternative forms is phonologically predetermined or constrained. The voiced fricative /-z/ occurs elsewhere or after voiced consonants, while the voiceless fricative /-s/ occurs after other voiceless consonants. It simply depends on the last phoneme of the stem.

Essentially the same changes are observed in the third person singular agreement suffix as in (9a) and the possessive elitic in (9b)

9) a. Present 3rd singular verbs

Eat	-s	Hug	-z	Kiss	-iz
Look	-s	Bid	-z	Wish	-iz
Nap	-s	Stir	-z	Rise	-iz
Risk	-s	Call	-z	Judge	-iz
Think	-s	Bow	-z	Teach	-iz
		Enjoy	-z		
		Swim	-z		

b. Possessive Nouns (N-S') :

Pat	-s	Meg	-z	Joyce	-iz
Mark	-s	Ted	-z	Trish	-iz
Skip	-s	Bob	-z	Roz	-iz
Ernest	-s	Bill	-z	George	-iz
Ruth	-s	Sam	-z	Butch	-iz
		Mary	-z		
		Lou	-z		

In cases like this, where two (or more) variant forms of a single morpheme are similar in phonological shape and the difference between them follows a regular phonological pattern observed elsewhere in the language, the relationship between the two forms is accounted for by a special type of phonological rule, called a Morphophonemic Rule.

For instance, to explain the various forms of the plural morpheme in (8), it is believed that the basic form, /-z/, is the underlying form, and morphophonemic rules are developed to derive the other forms. But the essence of these rules needs to account for the following:

- 10) a. Plural /-z/-s/-iz/
 following sibilants
 b. Plural /-z/-s/-iz/
 following other voiceless consonants

It has been identified that the alternations in the regular English plural marker, illustrated in (10), are a morphophonemic process. The second-person possessive suffix, however, is more complicated. Here, there are three distinct allomorphs in the three attested environments.

4. Results and Discussion

Is every morpheme pronounced the same in all contexts? If it were, most phonology texts could be considerably shorter than they are. Many morphemes have two or more different pronunciations, called allomorphs, the choice between them is determined by the context. (McCharty, 2002: 22–23). Allomorphy refers to the choice of allomorphs because it depends so much on phonology, and is not a morphological matter at all (McCharty, 2002: 22–23). Plag states (2002: 27) that different morphs representing the same morpheme are called allomorphs, and when different morphs realize the same morpheme, The phenomenon is known as allomorphy.

In the English data, only the first three allomorphs such as plural allomorph, possessive, and 3rd singular verb, are all predictable, but the words such as sheep can't be predicted (unpredictable) depending on phonological context. The English past tense suffix -d, the English past tense suffix has three forms: [d], [t], and [ɪd / əd]. The distribution of the three allomorphs is predictable and parallel to the distribution of the three allomorphs of the English plural suffix (Aronoff & Fudeman, 2010: 74-78).

In the plural morpheme and past tense morpheme, there are complementary distributions because these refer to the fact that different allophones (allomorphs) of the same phoneme (morpheme) do not occur in the same linguistic environment. That is, each occurs in unique positions in words. More technically, they show mutually exclusive distributional characteristics (Wolfram & Johnson, 1982).

Besides phonological allomorphs, languages may also exhibit allomorphs that are not at all similar in pronunciation. These are called suppletive allomorphs here. An example is the suffix of the English past participle, which is **-ed** with some verbs (most verbs such as **pave/pave, cry/cried, call/called, stop/stoppped, pat/patted, but -en with others such as give/given, take/taken, shake/shaken, hide/hidden, break/broken**). The -ed itself exhibits three different phonological allomorphs, [d], [t], and [ɪd / əd], similar to the plural when describing the allomorphy patterns of a language. Another important dimension is the conditioning of the allomorphy, that is, the conditions under which different allomorphs are selected. Perhaps the most important factor is phonological conditioning. Very often, the phonological context (environment) determines the choice of allomorphs. For instance, the English plural allomorphs [-z], [-s], and [ɪz] are strictly phonologically conditioned. [-ɪz] appears after sibilants (**s, z, ʒ, ʒ**) [-s] appears after a voiceless non-sibilant obstruent, like cats, books, lips, or cliffs, and [-z] appears elsewhere, like bags, bells, keys, etc (Haspelmath, 2002: 29). suffix-s, but this will be ignored in this case. The items -ed and -en are not similar phonologically, so they are regarded as suppletive.

It is not always easy to decide whether an alternation is phonological or suppletive. For instance, what about English buy/bought, catch/caught, and teach/taught? The root

allomorphs of these verbs [baɪ / bɔːt], [kætʃ / kɔːt], [tiːtʃ / tɔːt] are not radically different. As go/went, but they are not similar enough to be described by phonological rules either. In such cases, linguists often speak of weak suppletion, as opposed to strong suppletion in cases like go/went, good/better (Haspelmath, 2002)

Based on the data, the findings of the research show that allomorphs can occur in:

- a. In the definite article (A and An)
- b. The definite article (the [ðə] is pronounced after consonants, and[ði] is pronounced after vowels or sounds like vowels.
- c. Derivation (bases and affixes)
- d. Irregular verbs
- e. Past tense marker (-ed)
- f. Present tense
- g. Plural noun markers
- h. Possessive/genitive marker

Based on the findings of this article, the allomorph that occurs in the Indefinite article is due to nearby sounds that are consonants and vowels preceded by, and in the definite article (the) is also due to nearby sounds, while the allomorph on derivation occurs due to the kind of suffix attached to the words. The allomorphs occur in irregular verbs, past tense markers, and present tense. In the plural morpheme and past morpheme, there are simulations and because of the assimilation the sounds defer one another like [pɛt-s], [bɛl-z], [rəuz-ɪz] and also stabbed [stæbd] passed [pæst] and needed [niːdɪd].

From the two examples, the alternation is not arbitrary; rather, it is phonologically conditioned. This means that the allomorph of a morpheme that occurs in a given context is partly or wholly determined by the sounds of adjacent morphemes. The suffix agrees in voicing with the preceding sound, and the plural suffix is realized by a voiced or voiceless alveolar fricative depending on whether the nouns lead in a voiced or voiceless segment.

4.1 Suppletion

According to Bauer (2003: 48–49) word forming of what seems to be the same lexeme are so varied. We refer to this as "suppletion" when two things are so derived from one another that they cannot be explained by any universal rules. Katamba (1993: 31) states again that where allomorphs of a morpheme are phonetically unrelated, we speak of 'Suppletion'.

The distinction between phonological and suppletive alternations is not always clear-cut. What about the English words for "buy," "catch," and "teach"? These verbs' root allomorphs [ba/b;t], [kaet/k;t], and [ti:t/t:t] aren't as drastically different from one another as go/went, but they're also not comparable enough to be covered by phonological rules either. In such cases, linguists often speak of weak suppletion as opposed to strong suppletion in cases such as gut went, good/better, and so forth.

5. Conclusion

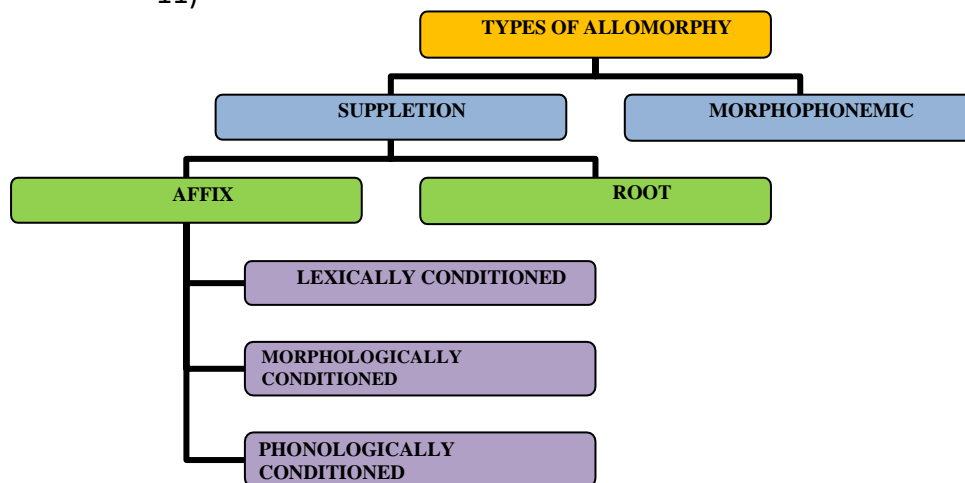
Based on the data observed, the researchers draws a conclusion that there are two basic types of allomorphy: *first*, morphophonemic change, in which the shape of a morpheme is altered by some phonological process; and *second*, suppletion, in which there is no regular phonological relationship between the two allomorphs. Suppletion may occur in roots or affixes and is generally used to mark inflectional categories (tense, person,

number, etc.) rather than derivational processes.

Based on the problems in this article, the researchers also draw another conclusion that the shapes of the morphemes in English are mostly affected by nearby sounds, but on the other hand, sometimes the shapes of the sounds depend on the stems attached to the words, and other conditioning factors. Allomorphy in English is predictable in most cases, especially plural allomorphs, past tense allomorphs, possessive allomorphs, and the 3rd singular version.

These different types of allomorphy are summarized in (11) , which is adapted from Bickford (1993: 163). This tree shows a logical way of classifying the various patterns of allomorphy that have been discussed and observed in this article.

11)



It is necessary to decide whether the choice of allomorph is better characterized as a morphophonemic process or as a case of phonologically conditioned suppletion if the choice of allomorph is foreseeable on phonological grounds. There are two fundamental choices if the allomorph chosen is not phonologically predictable. The lexical entry for the root will list the suffix forms of that root.

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