

MORPHO-PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF LUKABARASI NOMINAL COMPOUNDS

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of Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics of Masinde Muliro University of Science and
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DEDICATION

To Hossan and Tumiso, your love and support drive my work. Hossan, your faith in me inspires.

Tumiso, soar higher than I ever dared.

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ABSTRACT

Most generalisations made on nominal compounding are based on western languages. In this study, we examine nominal compounding in Lukabarasi language of Western Kenya based on The Generative Morphological Theory by Bochner(1992) and The Lexical Morphological Theory proposed by Petesky (1979) and later elaborated by Kiparsky (1982). The study is guided by the following objectives, to; identify and categorize nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions in Lukabarasi, analyse the derivative aspects of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and determine the extent to which Lukabarasi nominal compounds can be analysed within the generative lexical approach. To achieve the objectives of the study, we adopt the descriptive research design which is a qualitative research paradigm. A combined method of elicitation (verbal and visual) and native speaker's intuition are used to collect data. The snowballing technique, initiated with an initial group of respondents who were then asked to recommend additional participants, was employed to recruit a total of 10 participants. From a population of 174 compound nouns, 52 well-formed nominal compounds were selected for analysis based on specific criteria. Data for the study are collected through key informant interviews. The collected data was analyzed using a content analysis guide to identify and describe emerging themes. The findings reveal the following types of Lukabarasi nominal compounds: Noun+ Noun= nominal compounds, Noun+ verb= Nominal compounds and Verb+ Verb= nominal compounds. It is also established that the processes of acquiring compounds in Lukabarasi involve the following; prefix deletion, vowel duplication and nominalisation of verbs. The pragmatic process is where the two nominal meaning change to match with that of the prevailing environment. After combining the two lexical items in Lukabarasi, the compound noun derived has pragmatic functions which cannot be realized when analysed singly. Additionally, the nominal compound can serve the following pragmatic functions: metaphoric function, attitudinal function, identification function and classifying function. Lukabarasi has prefixes of singular and plural nouns. The singular prefixes include *omu-*, *eshi-* and *eli-* while the plural prefixes are *ava-*, *efu-* and *ofu-*. The study is significant because its analysis can provide insight to the morphological processes and pragmatic realisations in Lukabarasi as far as nominal compounds are concerned. The knowledge of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi will further add to the existing literature and studies done on the language.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

Generative morphology: A theory that was proposed by Bochner (1992) whose main principle is that a speaker has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill-formed words. In the context of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, morpho-pragmatic analysis is applied to identify underlying formation rules and examine how contextual factors influence their meaning and usage. By analyzing the systematic patterns and constraints governing compound formation and investigating their pragmatic functions, we gain a comprehensive understanding of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. This also helped determine if a compound is well-formed or ill-formed.

Lexical Morphology: A theory initially posited by Kiparsky (1982) that emphasizes individual words as analytical units, aligning with traditional, pre-structuralist models of morphology and contemporary word and paradigm morphology, in contrast to the morphological frameworks of American structuralists that prioritize the morpheme as the central analytical unit. To apply this approach to Lukabarasi nominal compounds, the compounds are analyzed as complete units, word-based patterns identified, and word formation processes investigated. This approach highlights the unique characteristics and properties of Lukabarasi nominal compounds at the word

Lukabarasi: The language spoken by the Kabarasi in Kakamega North Sub County. This study focused on the language spoken by the Kabarasi people primarily residing within the geographical boundaries of Kakamega North Sub County.

Morpho-pragmatic: A field of linguistics that explores how the structure of words (prefixes, suffixes, etc.) interacts with context to convey additional meaning beyond the literal definition. To understand the morpho-pragmatic nuances of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, it is essential to analyze how the morphological elements interact with the contextual factors to create additional

meanings beyond the literal interpretation. Analyzing these interactions provided a deeper understanding of the richness and complexity of Lukabarasi language.

Nominal compound: A noun that is formed by joining two separate nouns to produce a single form. To analyze Lukabarasi nominal compounds, it is essential to examine the individual nouns that make up each compound and investigate the morphological processes involved in their formation.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAC- Augmentative and Alternative Communication

AC- Attributive compound

AN- Associative Nominal

A-N compounds – Adjective-Noun Compounds

APA- A corpus of a German newswire containing over twenty-eight million words

CLASS- Classification

CP-Compound Nouns

FDGs – Focus Group Discussions

GMT -Generative Morphological Theory

ID- Identification

I.E – Information Extraction

IREC- International Research Ethics Committee

LM – Lexical morphology

LMT -Lexical Morphological Theory

LPM- Lexical Phonology and Morphology

N- Noun

NACOSTI- National Commission of Science, Technology and Innovation

NP- Noun Phrase

NPS – Noun Phrases

OLLIE- On-Line Learning for Information Extraction

QUAL- Qualification

SuNdaLa- Stands for Cisukwa, Cindali and Cilambaya languages which are three closely related varieties spoken in the northern region of Malawi

VP- Verb Phrase

WFRs – Word Formation Rules

RELNOUN- Relational Noun

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Chapter overview

The aim of this study is to analyse nominal compounds in Lukabarasi based on the Generative Morphological Theory (Bochner,1992) and The Lexical Morphological Theory (Kiparsky,1982). This preliminary chapter presents brief review of the nominal compounding within the generative linguistic theory and within Bantu studies. It lays the foundation for the study in the following sub sections: background to the study, statement of the problem, research objectives, research questions and finally the significance of the study.

1.2 Background to the study

Nominalization is a significant feature of morphology, a principal area of linguistics (Naumann & Vogel 2000; Ten Hacken, 2000; Booij, 2005). The procedure entails the creation of a nominal by altering any element inside a specific word class, including nouns. Bauer (1983) contends that the concept of word formation is significant when the principles governing the creation of words differ from those governing the construction of sentences. This indicates that word development entails the generation of new lexical items through specific linguistic processes. The processes include coinage, borrowing, compounding, blending, clipping, back construction, conversion, acronyms, derivation, prefixes and suffixes, and numerous processes (Bauer 1983). The present study concentrates on nominal compounding as a word creation process in Lukabarasi and examines how nouns attain their distinctive language-specific pragmatic roles when combined to create nominal compounds.

In distinguishing compounding from derivation, focus is on the building blocks which are the morphemes used and their positional arrangement within a new word. Compounding involves free items (Fabb 1998), which may appear either as left-hand or right-hand constituents. The study is

motivated by an attempt to describe and simplify the nominal formation strategies in Lukabarasi, one of the Luhya clusters of languages spoken in Western Kenya. (Mweshi, 2015) in his morphological study of Bisa nouns, a dialect of Bemba language, states that many African languages still remain unstudied and undocumented This also applies to Lukabarasi which has been relegated to the status of a minority language where language and communication policies are less supportive (Mudogo, 2011). Furthermore, empirical literature on Bantu nominal morphology reveals that most of these languages use compounding as a word formation process. Although a substantive amount of work has been done on African languages, and Bantu languages to be specific, this is especially so with regard to studies carried out in Bantu group of languages which are related to nominal compounding as word formation process (Kula, 2009, Maduagwu, 2010, Ilonga. 2016, Mweshi,2019). However, there is a need to Lukabarasi nominal compounds within the framework of the Lexical Morphology approach (Kiparsky, 1982; Bochner, 1992), where empirical data is lacking.

Kula (2009:434) analyzes nominal compounding in Bemba. Kula examined nominal compounding and associative constructions in Bemba. Kula (ibid) classifies nominal compounds into three categories: nominal root compounds, sometimes referred to as "true compounds," synthetic compounds, and associative phrases, which are subdivided into non-argument associative phrases and argument associative phrases. In the case of Lukabarasi, it is necessary to classify noun compounds and associative phrases within the language and their pragmatic purposes according to the generative lexicon framework. The findings would shed light on the matter that has been in contention about the pragmatics of headedness of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and the associated phrases.

Ilonga (2016) conducted a comparative analysis of headedness in Ruhaya compounds. The study is descriptive and delineates two categories of Ruhaya compound words: endocentric compounds and exocentric compounds. It also examines matters concerning the lexical categories of Ruhaya compounds, the placement of headwords in Ruhaya endocentric compounds, and the semantic relationships between headwords and modifiers. It also provides a comparison between Ruhaya and other Bantu languages: Kiswahili, Bemba, and Northern Sotho. It ultimately offers a comparison between the aforementioned Bantu languages and English, Dutch, and French to identify similarities and differences in compounding. The results indicated that Ruhaya compounds can be classified as endocentric and exocentric. Endocentric compounds possess heads, which serve as the focal component of the word and typically dictate the lexical category of the entire compound, but exocentric compounds lack heads. In exocentric compounds, the meaning undergoes a complete transformation upon the combination of the two terms. Ruhaya contains nominal compounds (N+N) and deverbal compounds (V+N). While Ruhaya nouns and verbs are abundant, other lexical categories, including adverbs and adjectives, can also amalgamate to form compound words. This study examined the presence of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi and their formation through various morphological processes, as well as their pragmatic functions. The research aimed to identify the categories of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi.

Zapata (2000) elucidates that compounding entails the amalgamation of two or more roots to create a new term. Zapata (2000) regards compounding as a prevalent phenomenon across languages. Similarly, Basciano et al. (2001) assert that the Bantu language group predominantly use compounding mechanisms for word formation. They additionally indicate that the Bemba language employs compounding to create its noun compounds. Lukabarasi, a member of the Bantu

language family, possesses its own vocabulary, and this study attempted to determine whether compounding is a word production process that contributes to the language's lexicon. Likewise, Mchombo (2008) recognizes compounding as an additional word construction process in the Chichewa language, which is spoken in Zambia and Malawi. Mchombo (2008) indicates that compounding is an additional method by which nominals are created in Chichewa. He states that the most prevalent kind of compounding involves a verb and its unaltered object noun or locative noun, achieved by appending an appropriate prefix. He asserts that noun-noun compounding is less prevalent in Chichewa. The current study aims to determine the productivity of nominal compounding in Lukabarasi and identify prevalent nominal compounds, despite Chichewa mostly utilizing deverbals compounds.

Basciano et al. (2001) indicate that compounding is entirely productive in Bemba and other Bantu languages. Lukabarasi, as a component of the broader Bantu language family, aims to investigate the productivity of the compounding process. Taiwo (2014) conducted a study on the morphosyntactic interaction and derivation of nominal compounds in Yoruba. The study reveals that numerous nominal compounds can be formed by combining different words or phrases in Yoruba. There are a number of other permutations that have been identified, including the following: noun + adjective, noun + (plus) noun, noun + verb, nominal prefix + verb phrase, and lastly, desententialization of clauses and sentences.

1.2.1 Lukabarasi Language

Marlo (2011) states that the Luhya language comprises at least nineteen dialects, including Lubukusu (spoken in Bungoma County); Lukhayo, Lumarachi, Lusaamia, Lunyala-B, and Lutura (spoken in Busia County); Luloogoli, Lutirichi, and Lunyore (spoken in Vihiga County); and Lwisukha, Lwitakho, Luwanga, Lumarama, Lutsotso, Lunyala-K, Lukisa, Lukabarasi, and Lutachoni (spoken in Kakamega County, with the latter also present in Bungoma County). Muandike (2011) recognizes Lutura as spoken in Busia, although Kebeye (2008) categorizes Lunyala into two variants: B (Busia) and K (Kakamega). Moreover, Simon & Charles (2018) identified Lukabarasi as a constituent of the macro-languages of Oluluhya. The majority of the Kabarasi reside in Malava Sub County, Kakamega County. The speakers of Lukabarasi have also disseminated to regions of the adjacent Matete Sub County, Kakamega East, and portions of Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, and Nandi Counties. The term "Kabarasi," as referenced in (Mukulo, 2016), originated from the Ababalasi subgroup of the Kabras, as designated by the British. Consequently, Kabrasi refers to the individuals who communicate in Lukabarasi. The Kabarasi clans are Abamatama, Basonje, Abakhusia, Bamachina, Bachetsi, and Bamakangala, each named after the respective family heads. The Central Bureau of Statistics (2019) reports that Lukabarasi has roughly 136,962 speakers. Lukabarasi employs a prefix system, allowing its morphemes to be readily segmented into their constituent elements, thereby characterizing it as agglutinative.

Research conducted in Lukabarasi, including Makulo (2016), examined the adaptation of English loanwords to conform to the phonological and morphological systems of Lukabarasi. Makulo's research demonstrated that the pronunciation of English loanwords is limited by the Lukabarasi phonological system. The study concludes that all English nouns adopted into Lukabarasi undergo

morphological conditioning and are nativized by nominal prefixation, as all Lukabarasi nouns possess prefixes. Makulo's study revealed that each loanword entering Lukabarasi undergoes both morphological and phonemic assimilation to conform to the language's morphological and phonological structure. This study, however, diverges from Makulo's research as it focuses on the morphology and pragmatics of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. No effort was made to conduct a morphological examination of the nominal compounds according to their pragmatic roles. Matseshe (2020) similarly examined Lukabarasi verbal nominals. The objective was to examine the transformations that verbs in Lukabarasi experience to create nouns. It elucidated the morphological and phonological restrictions pertinent to the creation of such objects. The study's findings indicated that specific Lukabarasi nominals originating from verbs demonstrated morpho-phonemic processes. The study indicated that the development of Lukabarasi verbal nominals entails affixation, consonant assimilation, and vowel gliding. Matseshe categorizes verbs into two types: basic and sophisticated verbs. In Lukabarasi, simple verbs serve as imperatives and consist of morphemes that may be readily segmented into their root and affix components. Matseshe asserts that affixes play a crucial role in word creation in Lukabarasi, with prefixes being the most prominent affixes. They are inflectional affixes indicating tense, number, and negation, as well as derivational affixes that illustrate the formation of distinct lexemes from the same root word. Nouns in Lukabarasi are formed from verbs by affixation. The present study, however, diverges from Matseshe's research in that it concentrates on nominal compounding. An analysis was conducted on the creation of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, focusing on both morphological processes and their pragmatic functions. Consequently, offering insights into the morphological mechanisms underlying the creation of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and their pragmatic uses.

1.3 Statement of the Problem

One of the design features of human languages is manifested in the ability of the speakers of a language to create an infinite number of words that can be modifiable depending on the needs of the language users. Compounding is one such way of forming new words in a language. A controversial concept in the morphological analysis of nominal compounds is the determination of the positioning of the head and the modifier. This is important in that; the head-modifier relation is required for well-formedness of the word. Furthermore, Morphological and pragmatic operations also need this information in determining which constituent of a compound to affix in order for the word to be a well-formed compound noun and for it to convey meaningful information in the language. It is on this basis that this proposed study sought to examine nominal compounds in Lukabarasi in order to establish their headedness and pragmatic functions.

To gain a comprehensive understanding of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, this study aims to investigate the specific lexical gaps they fill, whether they are pre-existing in the language's lexicon or formed spontaneously, their contribution to effective communication and nominal productivity, and their functional role in native speakers' communicative needs. By employing corpus analysis to examine patterns of usage, conducting interviews with native speakers to gather their insights, and comparing Lukabarasi compounds with those in related languages, this research seeks to shed light on the significance of these linguistic elements in Lukabarasi and contribute to existing knowledge on the language's lexical system and the dynamics of nominal compound formation.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The issue of headedness in nominal compounds has been one of controversy over time. The purpose of the study, therefore, is to establish the productivity and headedness of nominal

compounds in Lukabarasi and the morphological properties of nominal during compounding. It also targets at establishing the pragmatic functions of compounding nominals.

1.5 Research Objectives

The study was guided by the following objectives:

- 1.To categorize nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions in Lukabarasi.
- 2.To analyse the derivative aspects of Lukabarasi nominal compounds.
3. To determine the extent to which Lukabarasi nominal compounds can be analysed within generative lexicon approach.

1.6 Research Questions

The study sought to answer the following questions:

- 1.What are the categories of nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions in Lukabarasi?
- 2.What are the derivative aspects and pragmatic functions of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi?
- 3.To what extent are nominal compounds in Lukabarasi analysable within the generative lexicon approach?

1.7 Significance of the study

This study of Lukabarasi nominal compounds through a morpho-pragmatic analysis with a generative lexical approach holds significant value for the advancement of linguistic knowledge on multiple fronts. Firstly, it furthers the understanding of Lukabarasi morphology by providing a detailed analysis of how morphemes interact within nominal compounds. This analysis will reveal the processes involved in compound formation, shedding light on the language's word-building

mechanisms. This knowledge can be compared to existing research on similar processes in Bantu languages or isolating languages, potentially leading to a more comprehensive understanding of nominal compound formation across language families.

Secondly, the generative lexical approach employed in this study offers a fresh perspective on Lukabarasi nominal compounds. By analyzing these compounds within the framework of lexical semantics, the research can contribute to the ongoing debate regarding the role of semantics in compound formation. Understanding how meaning is generated within Lukabarasi nominal compounds can inform broader discussions about the intricate relationship between morphology, syntax, and semantics in human language.

Finally, this research has the potential to pave the way for future studies on Lukabarasi language and Bantu languages in general. The detailed analysis provided here can serve as a foundation for further exploration of Lukabarasi nominal morphology and its interaction with other areas of grammar. Additionally, the insights gained from the generative lexical approach can be applied to the study of nominal compounds in other Bantu languages, leading to a deeper understanding of the typological similarities and variations within this language family.

1.8 Justification of the Study

Previous studies in Lukabarasi have focused on various linguistic aspects; (Makuto, 2008, Mudogo,2011, Makulo, 2016 and Sasala,2020). A similar study was done on nominal compounds in Yorùbá to examines the internal structure of morphologically complex nouns in the Yorùbá language. It was established that these nouns are categorized into endocentric and exocentric compounds. The proposed study borrowed largely from these studies however; it has deviated

from them since it seeks to do a morphological analysis of Lukabarasi nominal compounds something that makes it different with the other studies.

This study, focusing on the Morphopragmatic analysis of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, aims to enrich our understanding of this important language. Nominal compounds, where two or more words combine to form a new unit, are a cornerstone of Lukabarasi morphology. By examining them through a Morpho-pragmatic lens, we can explore how their structure and meaning interact with their use in communication.

While some research exists on Bantu languages and nominal compounds, a Morpho-pragmatic analysis specific to Lukabarasi is absent. This study will address this gap by employing a corpus-based approach to analyze a wide range of nominal compounds. The corpus will allow us to investigate patterns in compound formation and how these compounds function in various communicative contexts.

This research has the potential to contribute to both theoretical and practical domains. The analysis will shed light on general theories of morphology and pragmatics, particularly regarding the interplay between compound structure, meaning, and use in under-documented languages. Additionally, the findings can inform language teaching materials, dictionary compilers, and those working on language preservation initiatives for Lukabarasi.

1.8 Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study focuses on morpho-pragmatics of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. The analysis is limited to the morphological level and does not extend to phonology or any other linguistic aspects. The study specifically targets compound nouns in Lukabarasi, formed by combining two or more

words (verbs, nouns, adjectives, etc.). Data is restricted to Lukabarasi, a variety of the Luhya language, and excludes comparisons with other languages. The research is based on data collected from 40 Lukabarasi speakers and analyzes 52 nominal compounds. The study employs two linguistic theories: Lexical Morphology Theory by Kiparsky (1982) and Generative Morphology Theory by Bochner (1992). The study acknowledges that using only one theory might be insufficient, so it adopts an eclectic approach, potentially introducing complexity. The research is limited to the morphological compounding process, not exploring other areas of Lukabarasi grammar. The sample size of 10 speakers and 52 compounds might not be fully representative of the entire Lukabarasi speaking community. The study might encounter unforeseen challenges during the research process which may include: eliciting accurate data whereby it can be challenging to elicit natural and accurate examples of compound usage from speakers, especially for less common compounds, speaker reliability where by speakers' intuitions about the morphology and meaning of compounds might vary, requiring careful analysis to identify patterns, semantic ambiguity in that some compounds might have multiple meanings or unclear interpretations, requiring additional context or investigation among the few anticipated.

The research is confined to introspective data, corpus data, and elicited data. The researcher utilized the intuition of native speakers to obtain introspective data. The researcher purposefully sampled corpus data from Lukabarasi vocabulary. Furthermore, data was obtained from the native speaker through an interview protocol. Miloy (1987) asserts that the intuition of native speakers can be valuable in exploring the semantics of a specific language. Given this context, the researcher, a native speaker of Lukabarasi, utilized her innate linguistic intuition to enhance the examination of noun compounds in the language.

The geographical scope of this study is Malava Sub County in Kakamega County. It puts into consideration all native speakers of Lukabarasi who might be spread in the neighboring sub counties of Matete and Kakamega and also the counties of Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu and Nandi.

1.9 Chapter Summary

This chapter provided the background to the study in which studies that have informed the current study on nominal compounds that informed the current study have been looked at briefly. There was an overview of Lukabarasi as one of the cluster languages of Oluluyia in Western Kenya. The chapter further provided the statement of the problem, research objectives, justification of the study and finally the significance of the study. The next chapter discusses the relevant literature review that informs the study.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This section reviews studies that have been conducted on word formation processes with emphasis on compounding to establish what they found out. It establishes the point of divergence for the study in an effort to seal the existing gaps in empirical and theoretical literature. The chapter also focuses on the theoretical framework that was utilized in the study.

The chapter is divided into subsections which are outlined as follows: nominal compounding in Bantu, categories nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions, nominal root compounds,

nominal compounds and derivation, analyzing Lukabarasi nominal compounds within the Lexical Morphological theory and finally the theoretical framework.

2.2 Nominal compounding in Bantu

All Bantu languages exhibit a common morphological trait in which nominal compounds are distinguished by specific prefixes and suffixes attached to the noun stem (Muduagwu, 2010; Kirigia, 2011; Mweshi, 2019). The noun classes vary between different Bantu languages. Nominal compounds in certain languages may consist of words that share comparable affixation processes, contributing to a set of concord elements that follow a defined pattern of agreement. Existing literature indicates that nominal compounding is the most prevalent and productive category of compounds (Bauer, 2017; Guevara & Scalise, 2009), a fact that is well-documented within the Bantu language group (Muduagwu, 2010; Kirigia, 2011; Mweshi, 2019; Barasa, 2017).. In the study of nominal derivation in Igbo, Maduagwu (2010) established that a nominal compound (a single noun) is formed by the combination of two nouns. After compounding, the resultant noun may or may not have any semantic correlation with the individual words that formed it. During the compounding process in Igbo, there is an order that is followed when combining the nouns to form a nominal compound. It is evident from the findings in Igbo that language forms its nominal compounds differently through the process of derivation. On the other hand, the current study sought to investigate whether Lukabarasi as a language also forms its nominal compounds through derivation from other word categories.

Kirigia (2011) notes that Meru nominal compounds are made up of loosely connected words or morphemes that express a complete thought; for example, *Muthomi* - one who is read; {mu-} morpheme for ‘doer’ converting verbs into nouns + {*thoma*} root verb meaning ‘read.’ In this case, (mu) is abound morpheme. While Kirigia’s study had its focus on lexical borrowing, the current

study focused on the nominal compounds. Kirigia's (2011) study suggests that some of the words forming part of the compound noun may result from contact and thus lexical borrowing.

Mweshi (2019) did a morphological study on Bisa nouns. This research gathered data through qualitative methods, allowing for in-depth exploration of the topic. The study was informed by twelve adult respondents aged 60 and above. Data was collected through interviews and questionnaires and two church sermons. The data was qualitatively analyzed by defining and delineating the noun class structure in the Bisa dialect, characterizing the word formation processes of Bisa nouns, and assessing the productivity of various word formation processes for these nouns. The results indicated that the Bisa language comprises 19 distinct noun classes, including 16 basic classes and 3 locative classes. The results indicated that compounding, reduplication, affixation, borrowing, and clipping are employed in the construction of Bisa nouns. The research found that Bisa nouns exhibit productivity. This study aims to investigate the productivity of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions in communication.

The current study borrows from Barasa (2017) in investigating noun formation in Lukabarasi. Whereas Barasa identifies morphological processes such as derivation, the current study focuses on compounding. There was need to investigate the morphological structure of the nominal compounds to establish the morphological processes and pragmatic implications.

2.3 Categories of nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions

Abbas (2021) characterizes a nominal compound as a lexical entity including many bases that operates both grammatically and semantically as a singular word. A nominal compound is a structure composed of two or more nouns that operate as a singular entity. Associative phrases are

formations where two nouns are syntactically linked. Kula (2009) defines associative phrases as compounds consisting of two nominals connected by a linking element known as the associative marker. Kula (2009) categorizes chemicals into two types: nominal root compounds, referred to as "true compounds," and synthetic compounds. The present study aimed to elucidate the process of compound derivation and their practical functions. It sought to ascertain the morphological processes that facilitate the formation of novel molecules. Taiwo (2006:77-96) asserts that diverse nominal compounds can be formed by combining different words or phrases in the Yoruba language. This study examines whether Lukabarasi, a Bantu language group, demonstrates a similar pattern in compounding processes and the pragmatic function of noun compounds.

2.3.1 Noun +adjective= Nominal Compounds

Selkirk (1982: 13) observes that compounds in English include a word structure with two parts, each belonging to one of the categories: noun, adjective, verb, or preposition. The compound may be classified as a noun, verb, or adjective. Languages contain specific phrases that serve analogous purposes to words. This therefore results in the formation of compound-like phrases, such as A-N compounds (adjective-noun compounds), for instance, black box and cold war. Noun-adjective nominal compounds are endocentric and left-headed. Taiwo (2006, p. 55). In the Yoruba language, a noun and an adjective are amalgamated to form a compound noun. N + AP compound nouns For instance:

N		→	N	+	AP
Olówógbogbọ			olówó	+	gbogbọ
'the one with very long hands'			handowner		very long

Source:(Taiwo,2006:55)

The principal component of the compound word is the nominal prefix {o-}, which merges with the verb phrase 'to owe/possess' to produce 'the one who owes/possesses,' then combining with 'hand' to become 'had owner.' The present study examined whether Lukabarasi, similar to Yoruba, constructs certain nominal compounds by merging a noun and an adjective to create a compound noun.

2.3.2 Noun +Noun = Nominal Compounds

A compound noun may also be formed from the combination of two or more nouns. Taiwo (2006) observes that when two nouns are amalgamated to create a nominal compound, these nouns will manifest in genitive constructions within the noun phrase. A genitive construction is used to express the relation between two nouns and it involves two **nouns'** , one which is the head and the other the dependent (modifier noun). (Taiwo 2006: 56) An example from the Yoruba language:

N ₁	+	N ₂	N	
òkè	+	àgbè	Òkèàgbè	name of a town
Ilé	+	ẹjọ	ilé-ẹjọ	'Court'
oúnjẹ	+	alẹ	Oúnjẹ alẹ	'Supper'

Source: (Taiwo, 2006:56)

N1 is the head while N2 is the modifier. In Yoruba nominal, compounds that are derived from three nouns have the first noun as the head while the two remaining nouns are the modifiers. For example:

N_1	+	N_2	+	N_3	→	N
òrò	+	arópò	+	orùkò	→	òrò-arópò-orùkò ⁵ 'pronoun'

Source: (Taiwo,2006:57)

These nouns are endocentric nouns. This study took inspiration from Taiwo’s study to explore if Lukabarasi shares the phenomenon of noun compounding, where multiple nouns (two or three) are merged into a single compound noun.

2.3.3 Noun + verb =Nominal Compounds

Taiwo (2006) Nominal compounds can also be formed from verb phrases. These nominal compounds can be divided into several categories. There are nouns formed from the combination of a noun and a verb. In the resultant structure, the verb loses its verbal category when it is incorporated into the noun. An example from the Yoruba Language (Taiwo, 2006:58):

N	→	N	+	V
òjórò		òjò		rò
evening (time)		day		soft
okùnfà		okùn		fà
cause		rope		pull

Source: (Taiwo,2006:58)

These nominal compounds possess an endocentric nature. The present study will draw from previous research to determine whether Lukabarasi constructs some nominal compounds similarly to Yoruba, albeit with potentially distinct morphological mechanisms.

2.3.4 Nominal prefix +verb phrase Nominal Compounds

This subsection delves into how s compound nouns are built by attaching specific prefixes to verb phrases. Nominal compounds are essentially new nouns formed by combining smaller words, and

here the focus is on prefixes that act as building blocks to turn verb phrases (acting as units that express actions) into complete nouns specific to Lukabarasi. The research aimed to identify these prefixes and the types of verb phrases they can work with to create these unique compound nouns.

A nominal compound may also be formed from a verb phrase (Taiwo, 2006). In this instance, the verb along with its object undergoes nominalization through the addition of a nominal affix at the beginning. A case in point Yoruba language:

verb phrase	nominal prefix	derived nominal compounds
pa eja 'catch fish'	a- ì- àì- ⁶	apeja 'a fisherman' ìpeja 'act of fishing' àipeja 'act of not fishing'

Taiwo, 2006: 58-65

Source

(Taiwo,2006:58)

Within these frameworks, the nominal prefixes serve as the principal elements. This occurs due to the alteration of the base's classification from VP to N. These compounds exhibit an endocentric structure.

According to Taiwo (2006), nominal compounds in Yoruba can also be formed through the amalgamation of two verb phrases along with a nominal prefix. There exist two categories of such compounds, the first characterized by the presence of an explicit nominal prefix affixed to the two verb phrases, as illustrated in the Yoruba language:

Verb Phrases	nominal prefix	Derived Nominal Compounds.
dá erù, pa ọkò make load kill vehicle "overloading the vehicle"	a-, ì-	adẹrùpọkọ "someone who overloads the vehicle" ìdẹrùpọkọ "the act of overloading"

Source (Taiwo,2006:59)

The second involves the amalgamation of two verb phrases without any explicit nominal prefix affixed to the resulting nominal form. An illustration in the Yoruba language: (Taiwo, 2006: 60-65)

Verb Phrases
 bá mi, dé ilé
 accompany me, reach house
 “accompany me home”

Derived nominal compounds
 Bámidélé (name)

Source: (Taiwo,2006:60)

The resulting nouns exhibit a structural similarity to the two verb phrases from which they originate. There is an absence of an overt prefix in any of the derived nouns, which occurs through the process of conversion—a mechanism whereby a constituent transitions from one category to another without an overt morpheme facilitating the change. The nominal prefix dictates the transformation of the two verb phrases into nouns, which is why it serves as the head of these nominal compounds.

In Yoruba, nominal compounds may also be formed from serial verbs (Taiwo, 2006). This is achieved through the amalgamation of a nominal prefix with a sequence of verbs. An illustration from the Yoruba language:

	Serial Verbs	Nominal Prefix	Derived Compound Nouns
a.	bù, mu fetch drink	à-, ì-	àbùmu ‘object use for drinking’ ìbùmu ‘act of fetching to drink’
b.	rí wí sí see speak against	à-, ì-, àì-	àrìwísí ‘comment’ ìrìwísí ‘comment’ àìrìwísí ‘nothing to comment’

(Taiwo,2006:63)

To form a compound noun from serial verbs, one must amalgamate the verbs and subsequently affix a nominal prefix to the resultant structure.

Nominal compounds can also be derived from the segmentation of verbs (Taiwo, 2006). A nominal prefix is affixed to a splitting verb to create a nominal compound in this instance. The absence of an object between the splitting verb results in the fusion of the two components into a polysyllabic verb, subsequently accompanied by the addition of a nominal prefix. A case in point from the Yoruba language:

	Splitting verb	Nominal prefix	Derived compounds
a.	bá ...wí 'to rebuke'	í-	ìbáwí 'rebuke'
b.	rẹ́....jẹ 'to cheat'	í-	ìrẹ́jẹ 'cheating'
c.	yí....po 'to surround'	í-, à-	ìyípo/ àyípo 'act of surrounding'

(Taiwo,2006:64)

The nature of these compound nouns is endocentric, as they possess a nominal prefix that serves as their head. This study examines the existence of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi, specifically those formed by the combination of nouns and verb phrases, akin to the structures found in the Yoruba language.

2.3.5 Desententialization of clauses and sentences

Desententialization is a morphological process whereby an entire clause or sentence is condensed into a noun. Taiwo (2006) observes that a compound noun can be formed from a multi-verb sentence that is devoid of a subject. In this instance, a nominal prefix functions as the subject, resulting in a desententialized structure.

Diverse sentence kinds may participate in this nominalization. Examples of such constructs include focal constructions, dislocated sentences, relative clauses, multiple verb sentences, and underived sentences. Compound nouns resulting from this procedure are classified as exocentric compounds, as the nominal parts of the sentence do not assume the role of the head in the derived compounds.

The present study aims to ascertain if desententilization is a morphological process implicated in the production of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, akin to its function in Yoruba.

2.3.6 A possessive and a Noun

Mtenje, 2016. Compounds in SuNdaLa can also be generated by combining a possessive and a noun. For example, *mwene-misuku* denotes "owner of Misuku" (Ruler of the Misuku area), whereas *mwene-tfajana* signifies "owner of the sky" (Ruler of the Chanya area), among others. The term *mwene* translates to "owner of," suggesting a sense of possessiveness. However, the resultant forms manifest as compound nouns that denote Traditional Authorities (senior chiefs) overseeing the regions within their domain. This research examines the interplay between nouns and various lexical categories in the formation of Lukabarasi compounds, aiming to ascertain their conformity with the patterns identified in SuNdaLa compounds. In conclusion, Mtenje (2016) asserts that the compound nouns created from the aforementioned combinations, with the exception of desententilization, are classified as endocentric compounds and originate from phrases. The present investigation aims to determine if Lukabarasi constructs certain nominal compounds through the amalgamation of a possessive element and a non, akin to the practice observed in SuNdaLa.

2.3.7: Pragmatic Functions of Nominal Compounds

It is generally recognized that modifiers in nominal compounds serve a classifying purpose. The modifier serves to limit the class indicated by the head noun. (Zimmer 1971; Downing 1977; Berman & Clark 1989; Bauer 2006, among others.) Nominal compounds typically signify

subcategories, regardless of the grammatical class of the modifier involved. Teyssier (1968) puts forth these functional categories of prenominal modification. The initial category he suggests is Identification (ID), typically situated at the extreme left of the pre-head sequence. Secondly, there is Qualification (QUAL), situated in the middle, and finally, Classification (CLASS), located near the head.

An example:

<i>this</i>	<i>tasty</i>	<i>sweet</i>	<i>potato</i>
ID	QUAL	CLASS	N

Source: (Schlucker,2013:2)

Schlücker (2013) posits that the fundamental role of lexical modifiers in nominal compounds is to facilitate classification. Classifying modifiers delineate the denotational scope of the head noun, elucidating a sub-concept (e.g., apple juice signifies a category of juice derived from apples). Nonetheless, Schlucker recognizes that modifiers may serve additional purposes, including the expression of attitude (e.g., unpleasant weather) or identification (e.g., concert in Berlin).

Conversely, attitudinal modifiers convey the speaker's positive or negative sentiment regarding the referent of the noun phrase (e.g., Schrottveranstaltung "crap event"). These modifiers frequently exhibit level stress and cannot be directly derived from the literal interpretation of the modifier

constituent. Schlucker (2013) further observes that the attitudinal function is not universally applicable to all nominal modifiers, but is restricted to specific nouns that possess an additional evaluative or expressive significance. Furthermore, modifiers serving an attitudinal purpose are intricately connected to those that fulfill an intensifying or augmentative role. For example, modifiers like *Arsch* ‘ass’ or *Sau* ‘sow’, which primarily carry a pejorative connotation, can serve as intensifiers that convey both positive and negative meanings, particularly when they modify adjectival heads. Instances include *arschkalt* ‘bloody cold’, *arschgeil* ‘really fantastic’, *saudumm* ‘bloody stupid’, and *saubequem* ‘extremely comfortable’. Moreover, Schlucker (2013) observes that attitudinal modifiers are, by definition, related to the speaker and convey the subjective attitude of the speaker regarding the noun phrase referent.

Examples:

<i>Scheißbuch</i> , shit.book ‘crappy book’,	<i>Schrottveranstaltung</i> , crap.event ‘crappy event’,	<i>Schweinekälte</i> , pig.cold ‘bloody freezing’,	<i>Drecksge­schäft</i> filth.business ‘filthy business’
<i>Spitzenkonzert</i> ‘top concert’			
<i>Grottenabend</i> cave.evening ‘lousy evening’			
<i>Hammerlied</i> , hammer.song ‘outstanding song’,	<i>Killerauftritt</i> killer.performance ‘outstanding performance’		

Source : (Schlucker, 2013:6)

Recognizing modifiers, conversely, assists in clarifying the reference of the noun phrase (e.g., *das Berlin-Konzert* "the Berlin concert"). Rosenbach (2009) posits that the identification of modifiers serves to clarify the reference of the noun phrase, thereby aiding in the discernment of the referent associated with that noun phrase. Rijkhoff (2010) delineates two functional categories of modifiers that aid in the identification of the NP referent: discourse-referential modifiers and localizing/anchoring modifiers. Discourse-referential modifiers pertain to the referential or existential status of an entity within the discourse, indicating whether the addressee is presumed to be familiar or unfamiliar with the NP referent (Rijkhoff 2010: 103). Definite and indefinite articles serve as quintessential illustrations of these "modifiers." Localizing or anchoring modifiers facilitate the hearer's ability to accurately identify the referent of the head noun by establishing a connection between the noun referent and a specific location or possessor. They are frequently represented as genitive constructions or prepositional phrases. Zifonun (2010) employs the phrase "anchoring modifiers" or "referential-anchoring modifiers" to highlight that these modifiers do not inherently possess a locative significance. Consequently, modifiers that delineate a local, temporal, possessive, or other relationship between an abstract or concrete entity and the head noun of the noun phrase can serve to limit the referential capacity of this noun phrase. They serve as a stabilizing force in the identification of the NP referent.

Examples:

die Zeitung von gestern

DET N AN

the newspaper of yesterday

‘yesterday’s newspaper’

das Kind meines besten Freundes

DET N AN

the child my_{GEN} best_{GEN} friend_{GEN}

‘the child of my best friend’

Source: (Schucker,2013:8)

Expanding on Schlücker's (2013) observation that classification serves as the primary function of lexical modifiers in nominal compounds, we can further explore the concept of subkinds. Although Schlücker predominantly emphasizes the German context, it is essential to investigate whether this concept is applicable to Lukabarasi. For example, does the Lukabarasi language utilize comparable mechanisms to distinguish between general and specific noun meanings within compounds?

Schlucker (2013) posits that proper names can serve as identifying modifiers within nominal compounds, thereby specifying particular referents. Although separate from the classification of modifiers that categorize head nouns, identifying modifiers concentrate on the aspect of reference. Although complete noun phrases are limited in compounds, proper names can fulfill this function, as illustrated by instances such as "Wulff-Villa." Nevertheless, proper names can serve a classificatory function, as exemplified by "Montessori-Pädagogik." Recognizing modifiers

delineates particular relationships, including possessive, commemorative, or creative connections between the proper name and the head noun. Synthetic compounds present intricacies, as proper names frequently serve as arguments instead of modifiers. While instances such as "Goethe-Verehrung" distinctly illustrate this, examples like "Gauweiler-Antrag" obscure the boundaries. Although they bear a resemblance to synthetic compounds, they facilitate potential identifying functions, particularly in the expression of possessive relationships. The intricacies of these nuances underscore the difficulties inherent in definitively classifying proper names within compound structures.

Example:

Hitler-Bärtchen, Günter-Netzer-Frisur, Merkel-Blazer
'Hitler moustache', 'Günter Netzer haircut', 'Merkel jacket'
Bruckner-Sinfonie, Mulisch-Roman, Beckmann-Gemälde
'Bruckner symphony', 'Mulisch novel', 'Beckmann painting'

Source: (Schlucker,2013:11)

Current studies largely interpret nominal compounds as fundamentally fulfilling a classification role, wherein modifiers delineate subcategories of the head noun. Nonetheless, Schlücker (2013) contests this idea by presenting attitudinal and identifying modifiers as supplementary functions. Attitudinal modifiers express the speaker's perspective, whereas identifying modifiers play a role

in specifying referents. This research seeks to build upon these findings by investigating the diverse roles that modifiers can play in Lukabarasi nominal compounds, transcending mere classification to include additional semantic and syntactic relationships.

2.4 Nominal root Compounds

A compound word is defined as a term formed by the combination of two distinct words, resulting in a meaning that is not directly derived from the individual components. As noted by Selkirk (1982:13), compounds in English represent a specific form of word structure composed of two constituents, each of which falls within one of the categories of nouns, adjectives, verbs, or prepositions. The compound may be classified as a noun, verb, or adjective. Fabb (2001) articulates that a compound is a lexical unit formed by the combination of two or more words. Nevertheless, he failed to elucidate the morphological processes underlying such compounds. This study explores the morphological processes and pragmatic functions associated with derivative nominal compounds. Kula (2009) examines the phenomenon of nominal compounding within the Bemba language. Kula delineates four categories of compounds, specifically nominal root compounds, often referred to as “true compounds,” alongside synthetic compounds. The remaining categories of compounds consist of associative phrases, which can be further classified into non-argument associative phrases and argument associative phrases. Compounds that exclusively feature nominal roots in Bemba are infrequent and primarily comprise kinship terms with established meanings. These compounds exhibit an endocentric structure, wherein the left member serves as the head, governing

the noun class of the compound. Two primary attributes delineate their classification as compounds. The initial point is that the complement of the head constitutes a bare nominal devoid of the augment. Consequently, in every instance, constructions in which the second nominal includes the augment are deemed ungrammatical. The second aspect is prosody; the terminal element of the compound concludes with a high tone, regardless of its underlying low tone. Whereas Kula (2009) concentrated on the structural patterns of Bemba compounds, the present study investigates the semantic and pragmatic dimensions of compound formation, examining the ways in which meaning and context shape the creation of compounds.

Kula's discourse centers on the assessment of whether associative phrases qualify as compounds. Kula (2009:495) observes that the characteristics of compounds are as follows: Nominal compounds exhibit a left-headed structure, wherein the head governs both agreement and modification. The non-head component of the compound lacks an augment, whereas the head is required to possess an augment, except in cases where it belongs to class 1a. It is infeasible to extract from a compound, and the creation of recursive structures is unattainable. This research is solely dedicated to the exploration of nominal compounds, deliberately excluding any analysis of associative phrases.

Compounds that consist of a deverbal noun and a nominal root are classified as synthetic compounds due to their incorporation of two morphological processes occurring concurrently: compounding and derivation (Booij, 2005). A study conducted on Bemba regarding these compounds reveals that the deverbal noun functions as the head in the left-hand position, while the nominal root serves as the complement. The complement assumes the semantic role of the patient in relation to the verb from which the deverbal noun originates. Similar to the root

compounds, the non-head complement is devoid of an augment, while the deverbal head nominal exhibits a final high tone and governs the overall agreement of the compound.

According to Botne's (2008) research of Cindali compounds, compounding in language is not a dynamic process. Compounding is likewise evident across all varieties of SuNdaLa. SuNdaLa features compounds that emerge from the amalgamation of nouns with other nouns. The SuNdaLa compounds can also be constituted by a noun accompanied by an adjective. Nevertheless, Botne (2008) offers several instances of verb and noun pairings for Cindali. The examination of SuNdaLa compounds aligns with Kula's (2009) discourse on iCibemba, indicating that SuNdaLa's compounds are similarly left-headed, as the complement precedes the head. For example, *umwana mulume* "son" and *umwana* "child" serve as the head of the compound, while *mulume* "male" specifies the type of child, functioning as a modifier of the head. Moreover, in all the SuNdaLa languages, the head noun is augmented, while such augmentation does not manifest on the modifier. In the case of *umwana mulume*, it is *umwana* that possesses the augment /u/, whereas *mulume* does not incorporate an augment. The present investigation aims to classify the nominal compounds in *Lukabarasi*, thereby elucidating the headedness of these compounds and assessing the presence of any augmentations.

2.4.1 Associative phrases and their pragmatic functions

The main motivation for considering nominal structures with an associative linker as compounds is that they resemble the compounds in synthetic compounds. Kula (2009) treats associative phrases as compounds. Treating these complex nominals as compounds perhaps also explained the

paucity of nominal root compounds in Lukabarasi. According to Tamanji (1991) cited in Mpoche (1993:47) “the associative expresses possession, time of use, material, content, origin, quality, quantity, function, place of use e.t.c.

Kihara (2018: 10-32) finds that an associative phrase contains an initial (head) noun and a second (dependent) noun. Some examples in Gikuyu.

mbori ya baba
9.goat ASSOC 1.father
'father's goat'
mbori ya igɔngɔna
9.goat ASSOC 5-ritual
'a goat for a ritual'
ke-rato ke-a ngɔthi
7-shoe 7-ASSOC 9.leather
'a leather shoe'

Mbori and *baba* are linked by the associative meaning *ya* which translates to “of”. The first associative marker indicates possession, the second denotes function or purpose, and the third specifies material. Building on this knowledge, the current study aims to determine if Lukabarasi also incorporates associative phrases in its morphological structure.

Mugane (1997) provides a detailed study of associative phrases in Kikuyu further dividing them into two main types: non-argument associative phrases and argument associative phrases. While this study focused on Gikuyu language, the current study is on Lukabarasi and aims at categorizing categories of nominal compounds and their pragmatic aspects and so it will investigate whether Lukabarasi has associative phrases and if the phrases have specific pragmatic function assigned to them.

Kula (2012) categorizes associative phrases into non-argument associative phrases and argument associative phrases, echoing the work of Mugane (1997). Associative phrases that do not serve as arguments convey a diverse array of meanings, encompassing aspects such as possession, location, contents or themes, material or source, temporal relations, types or kinds, properties, and functions or purposes. The second nominal within an associative nominal lacks an augment. Kula (2012) posits that agreement in non-augment associative phrases occurs solely with the head noun, whereas modification can involve either nominal within the associative nominal. Furthermore, recursive structures can be established, leading to varying agreement patterns of the associative marker, which in turn yield distinct interpretations. Associative nominals permit a broader spectrum of meanings, providing greater latitude for interpretative flexibility. It is not feasible to extract elements from an associative nominal; any component of an associative nominal cannot be extracted in cleft constructions. In conclusion, non-argument associative nominals display properties akin to compounds, characterized by a left-headed structure where the head governs the agreement.

Kula (2012) states that argument associative phrases like synthetic compounds have associated verb-argument relations. They are somewhat similar to synthetic compounds in that they are derived from a deverbal noun and nominal root where the former acts as the head noun and the latter assumes the patient role of the base verb. Thus, the relation between the two **nouns** is such that the complement nominal is acted upon by the head noun. With respect to compound properties, these ANs are exactly matched with the non-argument ANs and have in parallel fashion on all properties. The disparity in behavior between ANs and both root and synthetic compounds is

suggestive of their having a phrasal nature. It is, however, also clear that they are functionally equivalent to compounds in that they denote an entity and share a number of distributional properties with compounds. In this sense they could as well be treated as compounds which happen to have phrasal rather than word structure. The current study is informed by this study largely since Bemba and Lukabarasi are likely to share morphological structural processes, both of them being Bantu languages

2.5 Derivation and Nominal compounds

Compound derivatives are terms in which the structural integrity of the two independent stems is maintained by a suffix that pertains to the combination as a whole, rather than to one of its components: kind-hearted, old-timer, school boyishness, teenager. In the creation of derivational compounds, two distinct types of word formation are employed. The fundamental nature of derivational compounds will become evident when we juxtapose them with derivatives and proper compounds that exhibit a comparable structure. Consider, for instance, the concepts of brains raster, honeymooner, and mill-owner. The fundamental components of all three are: noun stem + noun stem + -er. An examination of the immediate constituents of the compound term mill-owner reveals two noun stems: the first is simple, while the second is derived, specifically mill and owner. A criterion for differentiating compounding from derivation pertains to the types of units involved in a morphologically complex item, as well as their positional roles within a word. It is commonly posited that compounding encompasses free items (Fabb1998), which can manifest as either left-hand or right-hand constituents. Conversely, affixes involved in derivation are bound elements that adhere to stringent positional constraints: prefixes are positioned before the base, whereas suffixes are placed after the base.

Matseshe (2020) categorizes verbs into two distinct types: simple and complex verbs. In Lukabarasi, simple verbs operate as commands and consist of morphemes that can be readily dissected into their fundamental components: root and affix. Affixes play a crucial role in the formation of words in Lukabarasi, with prefixes being the most prominent among them. These are inflectional affixes that indicate tense, number, and negation, as well as derivational affixes that illustrate the formation of various lexemes from the same root word. In Lukabarasi, the formation of nouns is achieved through the process of affixation from verbs. A noun and an adjective are amalgamated to form a compound noun. Examples of this category of nominal compounds include:

N	N	+ AP
The one with very long hands	hand owner	very long:

Fabb, 1998: 23-55

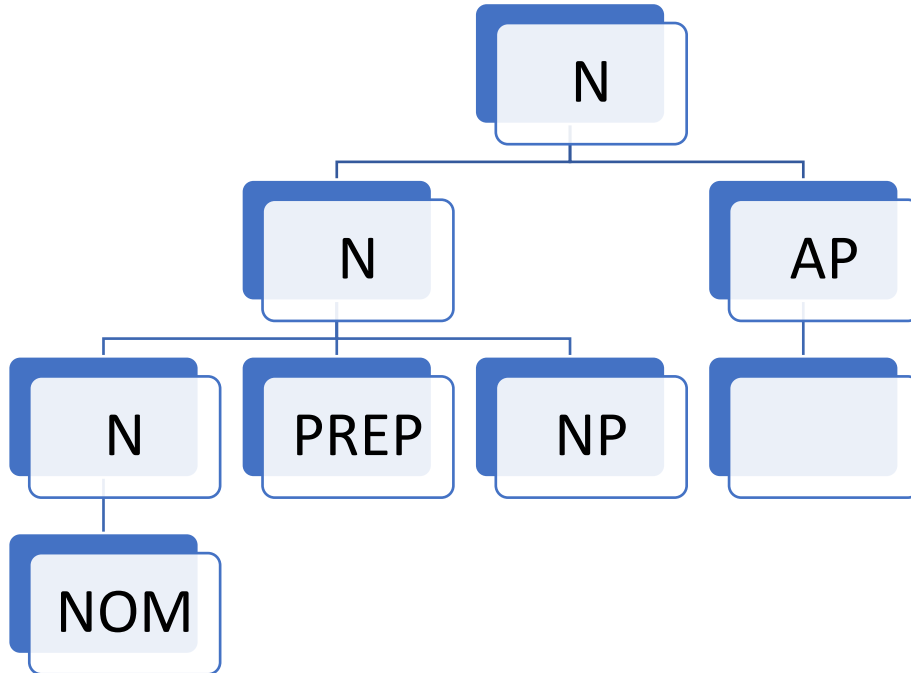


Figure 2.1: Analysis of the compound “hand owner”

Figure 2.1 presents an analysis of the compound noun 'hand owner'. The diagram illustrates how the nominal prefix functions as the head of the compound, combining with a verb phrase (VP) to form a possessive noun. This possessive noun subsequently merges with a noun phrase (NP) representing 'hand' to create the final compound. The compound noun 'hand owner' demonstrates a common pattern of nominalization, where verbs are transformed into nouns to express possession. This process aligns with cross-linguistic studies and is observed in various languages. The syntactic structure of 'hand owner' is similar to other possessive constructions in Lukabarasi, suggesting a consistent pattern of nominalization and possession within the language.

N +NP compound nouns

A nominal compound is formed from the combination of two or more nouns. In the case of two nouns that are amalgamated to create a compound, such nouns manifest in genitive constructions within the noun phrase.

For example;

N1 + N2 N

Court + valley court valley

In the aforementioned construction, N1 serves as the head in each instance, whereas N2 functions as the modifier. The tree diagram presented below illustrates the structural composition of one of these compounds.

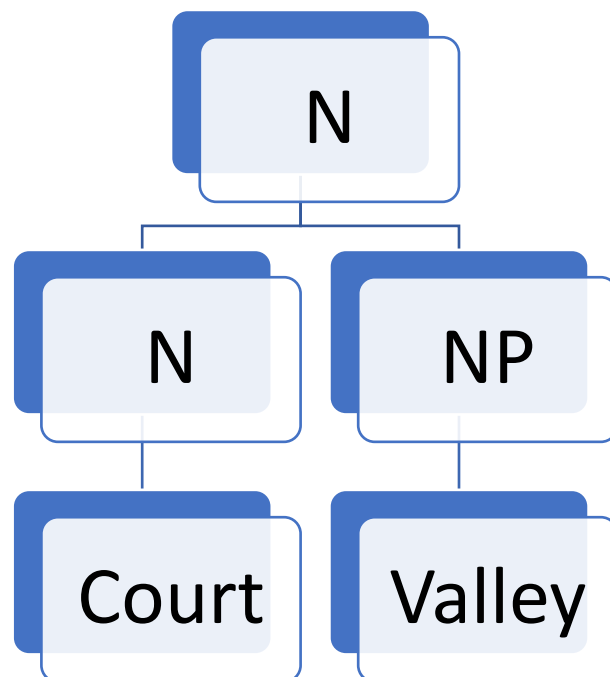


Figure 2.2: Structure of the compound noun “court valley.”

Figure 2.2 delineates the syntactic composition of the compound noun "court valley." In this compound, "court" serves as the principal noun, whereas "valley" functions as the modifying element. The principal noun imparts the essential meaning of the compound, whereas the modifier contributes supplementary information or context. This arrangement is prevalent across numerous languages, wherein the principal noun generally comes before the modifying element.

In the examination of inflectional morphology, the class of the word remains unchanged. Conversely, derivational morphology centers on the principles that dictate the formation of new words, independent of the particular grammatical function a word may serve within a sentence; it alters the word class.

In this context, Naseeb & Ibrahim (2017) elucidated that derivation constitutes the process of forming a new word from an existing one, typically through the addition of a prefix or a suffix. This study examines the morphological characteristics of Lukabarasi, specifically focusing on the roles of suffixation and prefixation, as well as their pragmatic implications.

Plag (2003) notes that various languages employ distinct morphological processes in the creation of their words. This suggests that the morphological structure across numerous languages exhibits significant variation. Matseshe (2020) conducted a study on the morpho-phonemics of Lukabarasi Verbal Nominal, focusing on the transformations that verbs in Lukabarasi undergo to create nouns. The study elucidated the morphological and phonological constraints that govern the formation of such items. Matseshe (2020) employed a descriptive research design, with the data subjected to

qualitative analysis, mirroring the approach taken in the present study. The dataset for this investigation consisted of forty (40) lexical items gathered through interviews with speakers of Lukabarasi. The research utilized a purposive sampling method. The study concludes that the formation of Lukabarasi verbal nominals entails processes such as affixation, consonant assimilation, and vowel gliding. This research examined the mechanisms by which verbal nominals are constructed in Lukabarasi, along with the phonemic modifications that take place during this process. Conversely, the present study concentrated on compound nominals and the syntactic positions they inhabit within a sentence. The present investigation further examines the pragmatic functions of derivative elements within Lukabarasi compound nouns to elucidate their morphological processes.

In Lukabarasi, the formation of words occurs through the combination of both free and bound morphemes (Matseshe, 2020). A free morpheme is one that can exist independently, whereas a bound morpheme requires attachment to another element to constitute a word. In Lukabarasi, free morphemes serve as root words, whereas bound morphemes function as affixes. Bound morphemes, as well as the root or stem of a word, convey meaning. This attachment is executed in a gradual manner to incorporate both straightforward and intricate vocabulary. Safdar et al. (2021) conducted an examination of Derivational Morphology within the Urdu language. Their study is grounded in the foundational tenets and principles of the Lexical Morphology Theory, originally proposed by Kiparsky in 1982. Their research focused on examining the neutral and non-neutral affixes, as well as their structural placement within the morphology of derived words in Urdu. The research sought to examine the characteristics and functions of Urdu affixes as they attach to or are inserted into roots or bases, resulting in the

formation of new words, while also challenging the prevailing assumptions of Lexical Morphology. The investigation reveals that the morphological structure of derived words in Urdu only partially aligns with the principles of Lexical Morphology Theory. The theory proved to be beneficial in the research conducted by Safdar et al. (2021) in examining both neutral and non-neutral affixes. Nonetheless, the premises regarding the hierarchical structure of affixes in derivational word formations do not align with the morphological characteristics of words in Urdu. Although the structural composition of Urdu adheres to certain fundamental principles concerning affix types, it presents significant challenges to other foundational assumptions about the hierarchical arrangement of neutral and non-neutral affixes within a word that encompasses both categories. The hierarchical structure posited by the theory, which is contingent upon proximity to the root, is often absent in numerous multi-layered derived terms. The present investigation aimed to examine the derivative characteristics of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, yet it refrained from exploring the hierarchical structure of the derived nominal compounds.

Baroni et al. (2002) conducted a study focused on the prediction of the components within German nominal compounds. The research focused on the compounds present in the APA corpus, which consists of over twenty-eight million words from German newswire sources. The study examines the effectiveness of different corpus-based measures in forecasting compounds as sequences derived from their historical context. The document further articulates and assesses various measures based on compound-splitting that can be employed to anticipate the predominant category of German compounds, such as those constructed from a succession of two nouns. Baroni et al. (2002) assert that word prediction systems constitute a significant element of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) devices, which include both software and

potentially hardware typing aids for users with disabilities. These devices can be integrated with speech synthesizers, facilitating verbal communication for individuals who are unable to speak. In the process of word prediction, there typically exists a prediction window—a menu that presents the most probable candidates for the next word, based on the input the user has provided up to that moment. ACC employs the keystroke savings rate as a fundamental metric in research to assess the efficacy of word prediction systems. Concerning compounds, it is presumed that the user would require a single keystroke to choose the left element prediction, followed by an additional keystroke to select the right element prediction.

Baroni et al. (2002) assert that the predominant form of German compounds is constituted by a succession of two nouns. The left component serves as the modifier, whereas the right element functions as the head, which dictates the fundamental semantic and morpho-syntactic characteristics of the compound. For instance, if the head is in the feminine plural form, the entire compound will exhibit agreement behavior consistent with a feminine plural. Consequently, German compounds exhibit a right-headed structure. Baroni et al. (2002) assert that not all nouns are equally probable to appear in modifier/head positions; some nouns frequently occupy head/modifier roles, while others are never found in compounds. Consequently, nominal compounding in German demonstrates productivity, with compounds being right-headed and the presence of linking suffixes evident. This study concentrated on determining the headedness of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and assessing their productivity.

Pal (2016) conducted an investigation into demonyms and compound relational nouns within nominal open information extraction systems. These systems generate relational tuples from textual data without relying on a predetermined relational vocabulary, instead identifying relational phrases that are present in the text. Initial studies focused on verb-mediated relations, consequently directing attention towards noun-mediated relations exemplified by OLLIE. It is often noted that numerous relationships tend to be articulated more commonly through the use of nouns rather than verbs. Patterns mediated by common nouns encompass appositive constructions, possessive constructions, and compound noun phrases. Interpreting and extracting tuples from compound noun phrases presents a considerable challenge, as they consist merely of a continuous sequence of nouns and adjectives. The paper significantly enhances the quality of extraction from compound noun phrases. The project expands upon the accessible RELNOUN system, which, after modifications, integrates three supplementary sources of recall derived from compound noun phrases: capitalized relational nouns, demonyms—adjectives that denote the residents of a particular locale—and, finally, compound relational nouns. The research conducted by Pal (2016) primarily concentrated on the extraction of information from compound noun phrases, yet it lays a significant groundwork for the present investigation into Lukabarasi nominal compounds. Their focus on discerning relational tuples within these intricate frameworks underscores the difficulties inherent in the analysis of such linguistic entities. This analysis enhances the present research by deconstructing Lukabarasi compounds into their fundamental components to investigate their morphological and semantic characteristics. Furthermore, the emphasis on compound noun phrases as a valuable reservoir of information corresponds with the present study's aim of investigating the pragmatic roles of these compounds in the Lukabarasi.

Pal (2016) Demonyms are terms that originate from the name of a specific place and serve to denote the inhabitants or natives of that locale. The demonyms, along with their corresponding locations, often incorporate pre-modifiers that are specific to the region. In the examination of demonyms, we permit their modification by directional prefixes such as North, South, East, and West, among others. To ascertain the precise relationship articulated through demonyms, one must consult the demonym table to determine if the head noun is present. If it is, one should substitute it with the corresponding location from the table. Replacements for demonyms are also required for compound noun phrases that do not utilize capitalization. Demonyms serve to indicate two prevalent relationships that may be directly associated with either the geographical location or the governing body of that location, as exemplified by the phrase "United States President Obama." Obama served as the President of the United States. Secondly, the location is characterized as domicile, meaning it is a place where one is native, resides, or maintains a significant connection, for instance. Canadian pitcher Andrew Albers merely indicates a place of residence—Albers is not a player representing Canada. Ideally, we would prefer to extract (Andrew Albers [is] player [from] Canada) instead [of].

Compound relational nouns, conversely, broaden the scope of RELNOUN to accommodate instances such as health minister, foreign secretary, and vice president. For every extractor aside from Compound Noun, there exist lexical indicators (such as the possessive marker) that serve to delineate a relational noun. Segmenting compound relational nouns becomes more manageable when accompanied by a demonym, as the demonym aids in delineating the left boundary. Nonetheless, the present study did not, under any circumstances, attempt to derive information from Lukabarasi Nominal Compounds.

2.6 Nominal Compounds within LMT

Dede (1978) did A Syntactic and Semantic Analysis of Turkish Nominal Compounds. According to the study, Turkish has three syntactic possibilities for forming noun + noun (N+N) noun phrases of two conjoined nouns, with the first noun modifying the second in different ways. The nature of the relationship between the two elements is signaled by the absence or presence of the genitive and possessive suffixes. The syntactic structure of a N+N combination is a head noun (head-N) with or without a possessive suffix preceded by a modifying noun (mod-N) with no suffix or head-N with a possessive suffix preceded by a mod-N with the genitive suffix. The three sets of N+N combinations can further be classified in two categories that are compounding constructions and possessive constructions. In addition, Turkish morphologically distinguishes between two types of compound constructions; N+N type and N+(N-POSS) English, however, does not distinguish these two types. The two are non-subsumptive and subsumptive combinations. Subsumptive combinations occur when the modifier (mod-N) is considered a specific type of the head noun (head-N), such as "*oak*" being a type of "*tree*." Oak is by definition a tree, with tree representing the genus and oak the species.

Dede (1978) Turkish marks a nominal compound by the possessive suffix $-(s)I$ however not all the N+(N-POSS) combinations are nominal compounds. Accordingly, we have true nominal compounds that are created to provide names for entities for which the language does not have a morphemic vocabulary items and Pseudo nominal compounds are reductions of relative clauses. Therefore, Turkish nominal compounds are right headed just like English. The current study is informed by this study and would, after identifying the nominal compounds in Lukabarasi, sought

to find out whether they exhibit the same characteristics as the Turkish nominal compounds especially in terms of headedness.

Dede (1978) classifies Turkish nominal compounds into attributive compounds and nominal compounds. In attributive compounds, the relationship between the mod-N and the head-N of an AC is similar to that of the members of an adjective-noun phrase i.e. both constructions are paraphrases of a relative clause in which the modifier is the predicate and the modified is the subject. If the order is changed it will affect the syntactic and semantic properties of the compound. The mod-N of ACs cannot be qualified by a qualifier like *cok* 'very' or *bizar* 'a little' because nouns cannot have degrees. However, if the mod-N is used figuratively and not literally, then the qualifier *cok* 'very' can precede the mod-N referring to the degree that the head-N resembles the mod-N. For example, *tas duvar* 'stone wall'. *Cok* cannot come before because the degree of stoniness of the wall cannot be measured. The mod-N of an attributive compound can also be derived from a verbal predicate too. The mod-N is derived from the underlying verbal predicate through the process of nominalization. The nominalizing suffix is added to the stem of the predicate. The current study differs from this study as this study focuses on the Turkish language while the current study focuses on Lukabarasi. Additionally, this study is set to find out whether in Lukabarasi the order of the words forming the nominal compounds can be changed or remain intact. If so, will it affect semantic and pragmatic properties of the resultant noun?

Nominal compounds (NCs), on the other hand, are formed when two members form a single syntactic and semantic unit; the second of which is always marked with the third person possessive suffix, and they can never be separated. The possessive suffix of the second member denoted that there exists a relationship between the two nouns which is both syntactically and semantically silent enough to form a NC. In order to form NCs in Turkish, there must be a natural and intrinsic

semantic relationship between the head-N and mod-N. For example, *elma* ‘apple’ and *agac* ‘tree’ can form a NC as *elma agac* meaning apple tree while *potates* ‘potato’ and *agac* ‘tree’ cannot; thus, *potates agac* ‘potato tree’ will not be an acceptable compound.

Dede (1978) also states that the syntactic properties of Turkish NCs can be summarized as; the order of the members cannot be reversed. That is, the syntactic structures of an NC are a mod-N followed by a head-N which carries the possessive suffix. Secondly, in NCs either the first member or the second member can be pluralized.; but not both can be pluralized at the same time. In some cases, the plurality of the mod-N is determined by the semantic properties of the head-N. However, the current study focuses only on the headedness of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and will not try to categorize the types of noun + noun combinations in Lukabarasi.

Bauer et al. (1983) conducted an investigation into “The meaning link in nominal compounds.” The study examined the semantic connections that exist between the components of English noun compounds formed by a sequence of two nouns. The study concentrated on endocentric compounds, which are hyponyms of their right-hand constituents. The research revealed that the semantic relationships present in compounds of this nature are also observable in various other constructions where one noun modifies another noun. Consequently, the interplay between the two components in any compound transcends mere grammatical considerations, delving instead into the realm of pragmatics. Thus, to fully comprehend a compound, it suffices to examine the information inherent in the two lexemes along with the morpho-syntactic framework. The morpho-syntactic structure conveys limited semantic information, applicable to all compounds, as the majority of interpretative insights derive from the contextual usage.

The issue of compositionality has been a subject of considerable discourse. Certain academics contend that compounds lack compositionality, as each necessitates additional explicit linguistic elements for proper interpretation. Bauer et al. (1983) asserts that all compounds are compositional, as they contain all the linguistic information necessary for interpretation within the compound itself. A different perspective posits that compounds lack compositionality, even though they depend on pragmatic information. The paper ultimately asserts that only constructions with unpredictable semantics can be classified as compounds, thus positioning a compound as a sub-type of an idiom. This paper centered on the compositionality of a compound; however, the present study did not explore the compositionality of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, as compounds are inherently compositional, consisting of two or more free forms.

The connections established by Levi (1978) are applicable not only to NN compounds but also to the entire spectrum of constructions where one noun serves to modify another. The relationships in meaning discussed above apply not only to nominal compounds but also to non-predicative adjectives and their corresponding head nouns. Noun predicative adjectives refer to adjectives that are unable to appear in a predicative position; for instance, the term "atomic." Levi (1978) The semantic relationships among elements within a compound extend beyond compounds themselves, as they are also present in the combinations of associative adjectives and nouns. Associative adjectives primarily originate from nouns, elucidating their resemblance. N1N2 and AassocN represent, in a certain regard, analogous constructions. Levi (1978) suggests that there exists a fundamental similarity between them, referring to them as 'complex nominals.' The research conducted by Levi (1978) indicates a lack of a systematic relationship between an associative adjective and a semantically analogous noun. For instance, dental and tooth. Dental decay is

synonymous with tooth decay. Conversely, a dental student cannot be equated with a tooth student, just as the tooth fairy cannot be conflated with the dental fairy. Consequently, sequences of associative adjectives and nouns exist independently from compounds. In summary, he contends that the semantic connections observable in endocentric compounds are similarly present in various other constructions where one noun modifies another. This paper, while addressing the semantics of compounds, diverges from the previous work by concentrating exclusively on the morphology and pragmatics of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi, along with their glosses.

Levi (1978) posits that there exist additional constructions that, while not regarded as variants of the same construction, nonetheless exhibit comparable semantic similarities to compounds. One may also articulate the relationship between two nouns through the utilization of possessive constructions. Another instance of nouns modifying other nouns occurs in blends, which can be categorized into two fundamental types: coordinative blends, essentially functioning as coordinative compounds, such as 'smog,' and determinative blends, exemplified by 'motel.' The combinations are appropriately directed and possess the potential to exhibit a similar type of semantic relationship. These blends exhibit an identical array of meanings. Levi (1978) asserts that understanding the precise semantic relation in a given instance is unnecessary; rather, it is the connection between the noun head and the noun modifier that matters, regardless of the construction, which inherently encompasses a certain spectrum of semantics. Consequently, nouns can be understood to possess a singular meaning relationship with their heads, a phenomenon known as adnominal. Nonetheless, the present study does not, under any circumstances, engage with the semantics of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, but merely references their gloss.

2.7 Theoretical Framework

This sub-section elucidates the foundational tenets and principles of the theories that informed the study. The Generative Morphological Theory was suitable for examining the first objective, which explores the nominal compounds of Lukabarasi and their pragmatic functions (Bochner, 1992). The Lexical Morphological Theory proposed by Petesky (1979) and Katamba (1993) was suitable for examining objectives two and three.

2.7.1 Generative Morphological Theory

An effective morphological model is one that facilitates the prediction of word formation, rather than merely cataloging individual words or morphemes within a language. One notable model is the Generative Morphological Model, which posits that a speaker possesses implicit rules that enable the differentiation between well-formed and ill-formed words (Bochner, 1992). The Generative Morphological Theory has been employed by researchers including Hyman (2002), Hyman & Katamba (2005), and Hyman (2007) to examine words in agglutinative languages characterized by numerous easily separable morphemes. The analysis of Kabarasi, as an agglutinating language, aimed to determine its capacity for generating new words through the process of compounding. The research indicates that this theory holds significance for objectives one and two. The second objective articulates the identification of the well-formedness or ill-formedness of nominal compounds, alongside the categorization of these compounds as either endocentric or exocentric, as well as an analysis of their morphological structure.

2.7.2: The Lexical Morphological Theory

The Lexical Morphological Theory was first introduced by Pesetsky in 1979 and subsequently expanded upon by Kiparsky in 1982. The concept of lexical morphology and phonology may be designated as lexical morphology (LM), lexical phonology (LP), or collectively as both lexical phonology and morphology (LPM). The entire word, as opposed to the morpheme, serves as the fundamental unit of morphological analysis within this theoretical framework. By concentrating on individual words as the primary unit of analysis, it aligns with the word-based models of traditional, pre-structuralist approaches to morphology, as well as contemporary word-and-paradigm morphology. This stands in contrast to the morphological models of American structuralists, where the morpheme serves as the central unit of analysis. An essential premise of lexical morphology posits that the morphological elements of a derived word are structured in a sequence of hierarchical layers (Allen 1978, Halle & Mohanan, 1985; Katamba, 1993; Kiparsky, 1982). In a complexly structured derived or inflected word, non-neutral affixes, referred to as stratum 1 affixes, are positioned nearer to the root compared to the neutral affixes, known as stratum 2 affixes. This indicates that stratum 1 affixes are situated in the inner layer, while stratum 2 affixes are positioned in the outer layer of the derived or inflected word that encompasses both categories of affixes. For instance, the term competitiveness (n.) [kəm'petɪtvnəs] features the non-neutral affix [-tive] positioned nearer to the root than the neutral affix [-ness].

Kiparsky (1982) posits that all irregular inflectional forms (e.g., see ~ saw for past tense) and derivational affixes (e.g., long (adj.) ~ length (n.)) belong to stratum 1. In contrast, stratum 2

encompasses regular derivations (e.g., kind (adj.) ~ kindly (adv.)) and compounding forms, while stratum 3 is reserved for regular inflectional forms (e.g., walk ~ walked for past tense). Katamba (1993) posits a reduction of lexical strata to a binary framework, asserting that all instances of irregular inflection and derivation occur at stratum 1, while regular derivation, inflection, and compounding are confined to stratum 2. Another significant premise of the theory posits a symbiotic relationship between the morphological and phonological rules governing word formation. The principles governing the pronunciation of a word are intricately connected to the principles that determine its structural composition. The result produced by each layer of derivation should constitute a plausible word that adheres to the well-formedness constraints inherent to the language. Every layer of derivation must also adhere to the phonological rules that dictate the pronunciation of the resultant word. The lexical rules of LMT necessitate the specification of the class of the bases impacted, the affix that is affixed, the precise location of its attachment, the class to which the resultant word belongs, and the stratum associated with the affix, along with its characteristics. Katamba (1993) references critics such as Goldsmith (1990) who have contested the assertions of LMT, positing that a single affix may concurrently belong to two distinct strata. The theory faces criticism due to the lack of consensus among its proponents regarding the precise number of strata present in a word. The existence of counterevidence to the principle of stratum ordering within a word serves as a significant critique of the theory.

This research examines the operational dynamics of well-formed nominal compounds in Lukabarasi, delving into their grammatical architecture through the lens of Lexical Morphology Theory, as well as their communicative roles and pragmatic applications. The emphasis here is on

LMT analysis, given that previous research has not utilized this theory to examine the intricacies of word formation in Lukabarasi. The study reveals that Lukabarasi has a complex and diverse system for constructing compound nouns.

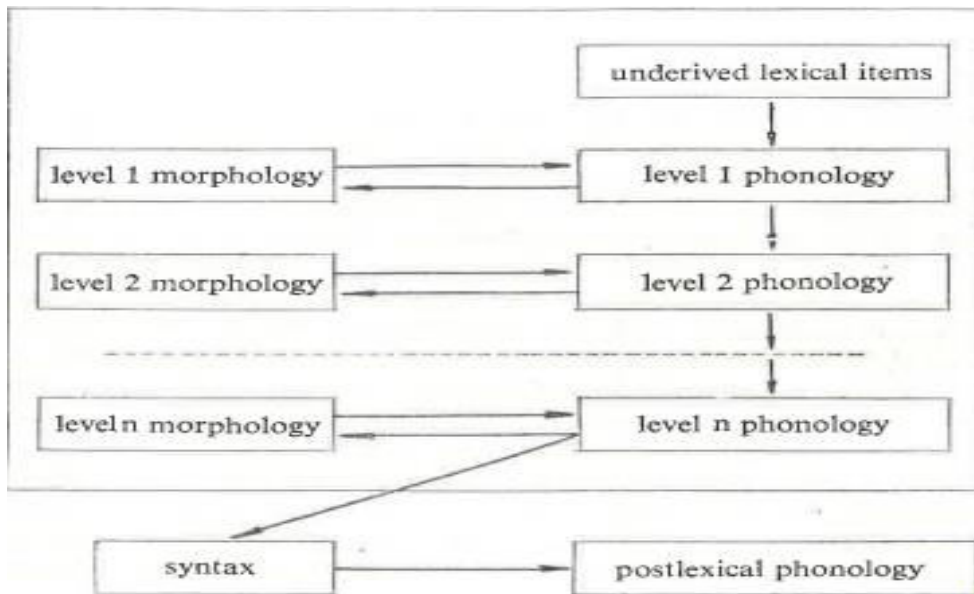


Fig 2.7.1: The Morphology and Phonology of Word Formation

Figure 2.7.1 illustrates the interplay between morphology and phonology in word formation. It shows various levels of morphology (underived lexical items, primary & secondary morphology) feeding into phonological processes (level 1 & 2 phonology) and ultimately influencing post-lexical phonology, which shapes the final pronunciation of a word.

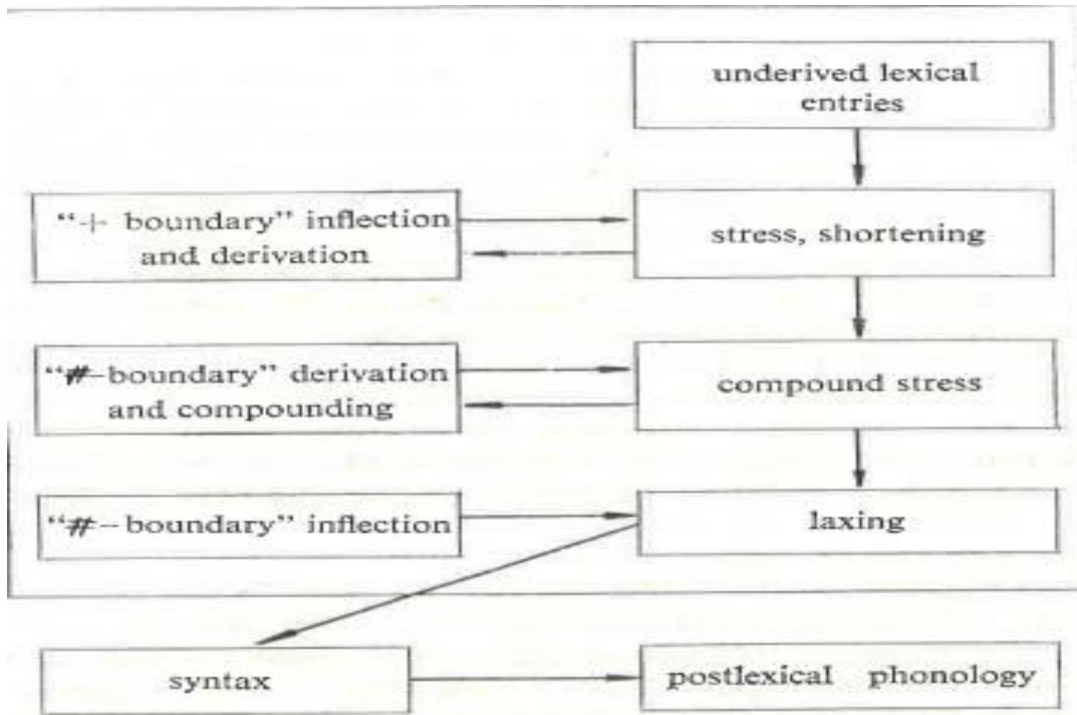


Fig 2.7.2 The Classification of Compound Nouns in English

The figure mentions several ways that compound nouns can be classified, including by their function in a sentence (e.g. noun, verb, adjective), their structure (how the words are joined together), and their derivation (how their meaning is derived from the individual words).

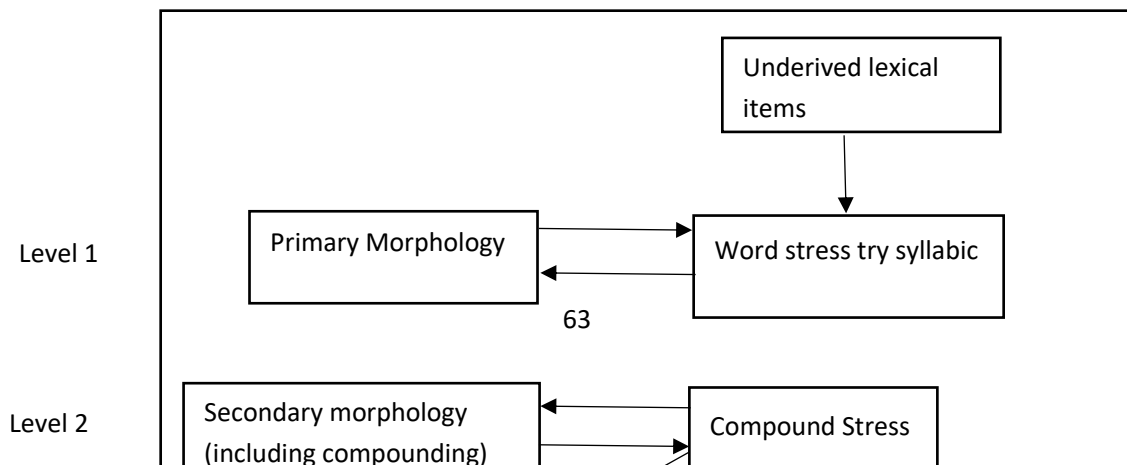


Fig 2.7.3: The Components of Lexical Structure

The figure directly mentions lexical structure, which is the way that words are built up from smaller meaningful units (morphemes). The different levels in the figure (underived lexical items, primary morphology, secondary morphology, syntax, post-lexical phonology) all contribute to this lexical structure.

2.8 Chapter Summary

This chapter provided the literature review of the relevant material to this study. It was organized in the following sub sections; introduction, compounding as a linguistic process, nominals, noun formation strategies in Bantu languages and finally nominal compounding. The theoretical framework has also been handled in this chapter with two theories being sighted; The Generative Morphological Theory and the Lexical Phonology and Morphology Theory. The next chapter discusses the research methodology applicable to this study.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the methodology that is applicable to the current study. It discusses the research methodology, target population, area of study, sampling design, sample size, data collection methods, data presentation, validity and reliability and finally the ethical considerations.

3.2 Research Design

The study adopted the descriptive research design since it falls within the qualitative research approach (Dulock, 1993). The research transcends simple characterization, delving into the analysis and elucidation of the underlying reasons and mechanisms driving the observed phenomenon. Its objective is to gather information systematically to portray a phenomenon, situation, or population (Luvonga, 2017). This design addresses the inquiries of what, when, where, and how in relation to the research problem, rather than delving into the reasons behind it. The process entails the collection of data that characterizes events, followed by the organization, tabulation, depiction, and description of this data (Glass & Hopkins, 1984). As noted by Williams (2007), descriptive research serves as a framework capable of elucidating the circumstances surrounding contemporary phenomena. Nassaji (2015) posits that the objective of descriptive research is to delineate and categorize the phenomenon.

The design is appropriate because it allows the researcher to discover and understand a situation from the respondent's point of view. There is also less emphasis on statistics and attention is directed to the participants and their immediate context.

Descriptive research, according to Mugenda (2008), is mainly used to investigate social issues, and it enables researchers to come up with solutions or recommendations on a given phenomenon. The current study therefore finds the design appropriate in investigating the productivity and headedness of nominal compounds among speakers of Lukabarasi.

3.3 Target Population

The target population of the study are the nominal compounds which are collected from native speakers of Lukabarasi. Data was elicited from a combination of native speaker's intuition and informants who are native speakers of Lukabarasi. According to the distribution principle, a large sample would not necessarily have given varied interesting data but would reach a level of

saturation (Rubin, 1987). Since the study is qualitative, samples do not generally need to be greater than 60 participants (Charmaz, 2006). The units of analysis for the study are nominal compounds from Lukabarasi items which are extracted from the native speakers of Lukabarasi.

3.4 Area of Study

Kakamega North Sub-County is one of the twelve sub counties that form Kakamega County according to KNBS (2019), and the sub county has an approximate population of 205,166. It covers an area of approximately 423.3 square kilometers. The interviewees that informed this study revealed that there are several languages spoken in this sub county, however, the main occupant group is the native Lukabarasi speaking community.

3.5 Sampling size and procedure

The study employs multiple sampling techniques comprising of systematic sampling techniques, snowballing technique and purposive sampling technique. To begin with, purposive sampling technique identifies linguistic units for analysis (nominal compounds). This was driven by the fact that the researcher is a native speaker of Lukabarasi and was able to tell well -constructed units from the ill-formed ones. The researcher being a native speaker of Lukabarasi adopted snowballing technique to identify the 12 informants who aided in the research together with 3 research assistants who were selected based on their expertise in English and Lukabarasi language. The number of compounds identified was 174. Subsequently, using systematic random sampling, the researcher reduced the number of sampled items to 52 nominal compounds by picking alternate nominal compounds to use for analysis. The data was collected until saturation stage was attained or when the trend repeats itself without any more change (Chenenje et al., 2023). This was 30% of the total. This was considered a representative sample threshold. (Grinnell's, 2001) A minimum sample representing 30% of the population is considered sufficient to enhance generalizability to the rest of the population. The key informants were native speakers of Lukabarasi. Kombo and

Tromp (2006) state that the power of purposive sampling lies in selecting information which is rich for in-depth analysis related to central issues being studied.

3.6 Data Collection

The data for this study was obtained by audio tape recording elicited conversations, unstructured oral interviews and taking notes during FDGs. The respondents, who self-identified as native Lukabarasi speakers, were confirmed as such by the research assistants.

3.6.1 Audio Recording

The recordings applied to purposively selected key informants picked in every ward and grouped FDGs. The audio recordings consisted of informal linguistic research conversations between the researcher and selected key informants. Data collection was conducted over a period of at least one month to ensure the researcher could gather a sample of at least one hundred nominal compounds for analysis. The sampling of 52 compounds was based on well-formed condition as explained in Generative Morphology Theory by Brochner (1992). The purpose of this technique was to enable the researcher to obtain the relevant data in order to achieve the aim of objective one which is to identify and categorize nominal compounds and associative phrases in Lukabarasi.

3.6.2 Unstructured Oral Interviews

Unstructured interviews, as described by Fontana & Fray (2005), Minichiello et al. (1990), and Patton (2002), are characterized by their flexibility and open-ended nature. While spontaneous, they require thorough preparation. The researcher maintains a general focus while encouraging participants to share relevant experiences and perspectives.

Unstructured oral interviews were employed to gather rich, in-depth data on the use and formation of nominal compounds in Lukabarasi. This method, as cited above, prioritizes understanding participants' perspectives and experiences with the language, allowing for the exploration of

unexpected themes that may not be captured through pre-determined questions. Nominal compounding in Lukabarasi is an under-researched area. Unstructured interviews allowed for the discovery of new information and development of deeper understanding of how native speakers use and perceive compounds. Bhat (2000) used unstructured interviews to explore the process of verb compounding in Hindi., uncovering previously unknown patterns.

Unstructured interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) serve distinct purposes in data collection. Unstructured interviews involve one-on-one interactions with participants, allowing for in-depth exploration of individual experiences and perspectives. The interviewer can tailor questions based on the participant's responses, leading to rich and nuanced data. FGDs, on the other hand, capitalize on group dynamics. Participants can build on each other's ideas, leading to a broader range of perspectives and uncovering shared experiences. However, FGDs can be susceptible to dominant personalities influencing the discussion, and quieter participants might hesitate to share their unique viewpoints. While FGDs can be a valuable tool, for a nuanced understanding of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, particularly regarding individual experiences with their use and formation, unstructured interviews would likely be more effective.

The study followed the procedure as described by Zhang & Wildemoth. The steps described were getting in by accessing the setting. Then understanding the culture and language of the interviewees followed by deciding on how to present oneself in order to earn the trust of the interviewees. Fourthly, locating the informant who is an interviewee who is willing to talk with you and is knowledgeable enough and in this case preferably a native speaker of Lukabarasi. Next is gaining trust and establishing rapport and finally capturing data through the most recommended method which is audio recording so as not to disrupt the natural flow of the conversation.

The interviewees were recruited through the snowballing technique major focus being on native speakers of Lukabarasi. While the interview will be unstructured, a flexible interview guide was used to ensure coverage of key themes related to nominal compounding. This is called an *aide memoire*. (Minichiello et al., 1990; Briggs 2000, McCann& Clark 2005, state that the interview may be loosely guided by a list of questions called *aide memoire* or agenda. (Burges, 1984) describe an *aide memoire* as a broad guide to topic issues that might be covered in the interview rather than the actual questions. It is always open-ended and flexible. The data will be collected in Malava sub county and the neighboring sub counties that have native speakers and a consent from participants will be obtained. The data collected will be analyzed using themes.

By employing unstructured oral interviews, the research aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of nominal compounding in Lukabarasi from the perspective of the native speakers.

3.6.3 Focus Group Discussions

Krueger in Greef (2002) defined a focus group as a discussion that is carefully planned and designed to obtain perceptions on a defined area of interest in a permissive and non-threatening environment. A focus group is a research technique that collects data through group interaction on a topic that a researcher determines. Focus group discussions rely on the interaction within the groups to add to the information solicited by the researcher. The main advantage of using focus group discussions is that it saves on time and money as per Myers and Macnaghten (1999) who argues that through FGDs, participants are able to openly share and evaluate their own understandings and experiences. Additionally, meanings are constantly negotiated, renegotiated and co-constructed in interaction with others in the group (Litosseliti, 2010). Since FGDs as

posited by Myers and Macnaghten (1999) are typically designed to elicit something less fixed, definite and coherent, the current study found it an appropriate technique to help the researcher achieve the aims of all the three objectives. By bringing together native Lukabarasi speakers, a discussion was facilitated on how they perceived and used these compound nouns. The interactive nature of FGDs revealed insights beyond simple definitions. Participants shared how the structure and meaning of these compounds influences their usage in everyday communication. The researcher gained valuable information on the cultural significance or social contexts where specific nominal compounds are used. While FGDs would not provide statistical data, they offered rich qualitative information to complement the study on Lukabarasi nominal compounds. The proposed study thus engaged FGD's of five key informants who were selected through snow balling from the purposively sampled Lukabarasi speakers. The FGD's were named as FGD1 up to FGD5 and the composition of each FGD was based on homogeneity

3.7 Data Analysis and Presentation

The data collected was analyzed by identifying themes that emerged from the field notes or transcription of in-depth interviews and describing them using content analysis. Mudogo (2017) used content analysis in analyzing the translation trends in Mulembe FM Luhya newscasts and was able to establish the divergence and convergence between Lukabarasi listeners and the non-Kabarasi presenters of Mulembe FM newscasts. To comprehensively investigate the morphological and pragmatic features of Lukabarasi nominal compounds, content analysis was employed as the primary methodological approach. This method was selected for its suitability in systematically examining the structural and contextual elements of these linguistic units. By meticulously analyzing a corpus of Lukabarasi words, this study sought to identify recurrent patterns in compound formation, semantic relationships between compound components, and the pragmatic functions of these compounds within their discourse contexts. While acknowledging the potential

limitations of relying solely on data collected, content analysis provided a robust framework for exploring the complexities of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and contributing to a deeper understanding of their linguistic and communicative significance. The findings were presented both through texts.

3.8 Ethical considerations

Research involves collecting data from people and about people according to Puch, 2005. Ethical issues arise in discussions about codes of professional conduct for researchers and in commentaries about ethical dilemmas and their potential solutions. Accordingly, the study observed research ethics by ensuring that all sources that were cited were acknowledged using complete references. The researcher also sought permission from the relevant authorities which will included The International Research Ethics Committee (IREC), The Directorate of Postgraduate Studies of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology and the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI) before commencing research. The researcher neither marginalized nor disempowered the study participants and conducted a pilot study to establish trust and respect with the participants. The purpose of the study was described to the participants and there was no deception in terms of understanding between the researcher and the participants. In cases of sponsorship, a cover letter was produced. During data collection, the participants were not put at risk and there was respect for vulnerable group.

There was also an informed consent form for the participants to sign before engaging in oral interview. There was respect for research sites so that they were left undisturbed after the process. During data analysis and interpretation, the researcher protected the anonymity of individuals. Data, once it was analyzed, was kept for a reasonable period of time; Seiber recommends 5-10 years, the researcher discarded the data so that it does not fall into the hands of other researchers

who might misappropriate it. There was also a personal agreement to designate ownership of research data and the interpretation of data provided an accurate account of the information. During writing and disseminating the research, the researcher did not use language or words that were biased against certain persons. The research did not involve the potential of suppressing, falsifying or inventing findings to meet the researcher's or audience needs. There was no exploitation of the labor of colleagues and finally, the details of the research were released with the study design so that readers can determine for themselves the credibility of the study. Other rules of scholarly conduct such as maintaining the confidentiality of the respondents were followed. All the sources used in this work are acknowledged by citing them accordingly.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents research findings, their interpretation and discussion. The corpus for the study was analyzed qualitatively based on content analysis. According to Marying (2014) content analysis is the most powerful analytical method used for subjective interpretation of the contents of qualitative data in systematic and context-dependent manner. The data collected for presentation and analysis in the current chapter is in the form of nominal compounds: Identification and categorization of, the derivative and pragmatic aspects and to what extent they can be analyzed

within the generative lexicon approach. Thus, besides their context-based interpretation, content analysis was found significant in the current study. The study also investigates the productivity of Lukabarasi as a language and also the headedness of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. Data for this study was generated using unstructured oral interviews that were recorded and focus group discussions (FDGs). The findings are presented and discussed in the context of the study objectives.

Therefore, this chapter was rendered into different subsections which are outlined in order as follows: 4.1.1 Categories of nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions, 4.1.2: Nominal compounds from nominal categories, 4.1.3: Nominal compounds from verbal categories, 4.2: Pragmatic functions and 4.3: Analysis of nominal compounds within Lexical Morphological Theory respectively.

4.2: Characteristics of Lukabarasi Nominal Compounds.

On the basis of this study, a word qualifies to be a nominal compound in Lukabarasi if it is a combination of words that function as a single noun. They are typically formed by combining two or more nouns or could also be from a combination of other word categories like verbs and adjectives with a noun but the resultant linguistic unit formed functions as a noun.

A total of 174 nominal compounds were collected from participants, through unstructured oral interviews that were audio recorded and through FDGs, who aided in the collection and analysis of nominal compounds with respect to objective one and two of the study. In essence, the data from the study comprised of nominal compounds that were formed by combining two nouns (72 compounds), verbs and verbs (2 compounds), verbs and nouns (63 compounds) and those that fall in other word categories combined with nouns (39 compounds). The percentage of the specific nominal compounds collected during the study was constant because systematic sampling design

was used thus ensuring a constant sampling interval; that is the number was reduced to 52 by picking alternate nominal compounds for analysis. The researcher being a native speaker of Lukabarasi also adopted the snowballing technique to identify 40 informants in research and three research assistants who are versed in Lukabarasi as native speakers and proficient in linguistics. The following pie chart shows the percentage presented by peculiar categories of nominal compounds collected during the study as well as the sets that were sampled for analysis.

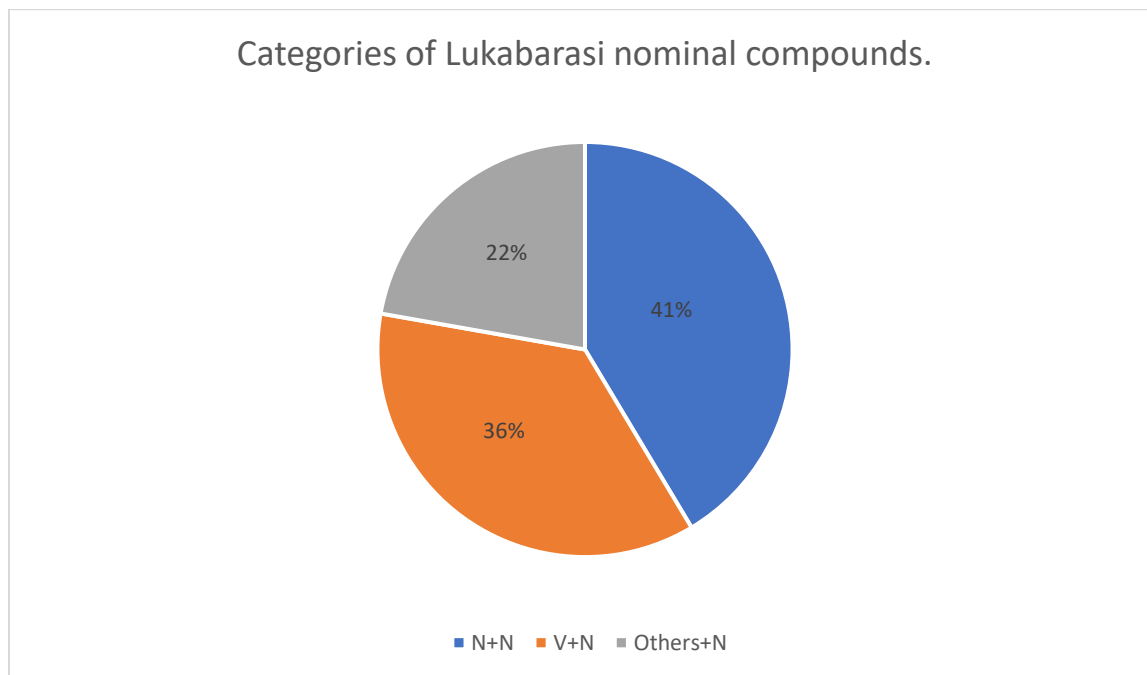


Table 4.1: Nominal Compounds in Lukabarasi

This table presents a selection of nominal compounds identified and their corresponding gloss. A total of 174 compounds were collected. To manage the large number of collected nominal compounds, the researcher employed systematic random sampling and purposive sampling. Systematic random sampling was used to select a subset of 52 compounds from the total pool. The selection was done by picking alternate nominal compounds from the total collected. Purposive sampling was then applied to ensure that the selected compounds represented a diverse range of morphological and semantic features.

Table 4.1: A list of Lukabarasi nominal compounds

No	Lukabarasi	Gloss
1.	<i>Sinjila-baleche</i>	A person that is proud of himself despite not being valued by others.
2.	<i>Omwenee-ngo</i>	The owner of the home.
3.	<i>Omulima-njila</i>	A person that digs the road.
4.	<i>Eshifimba-murwe</i>	A person that disturbs people
5.	<i>Omwikalaa-nda</i>	Lastborn
6.	<i>Elirulaa-nzu</i>	A woman who has dropped from marriage.
7.	<i>Eshiniaa-muliro</i>	A trouble maker.
8.	<i>Omwambukha-muchela</i>	A foreigner.
9.	<i>Eshilia-bakhana</i>	A womanizer.
10.	<i>Omundu-shibala</i>	A very huge person.
11.	<i>Eshisilaa-ngokho</i>	A traditional herb.
12.	<i>Eshene-khombe</i>	The owner of the place.
13.	<i>Eshitsia-molu</i>	A praying mantis.
14.	<i>Omwana-inyanya</i>	A very beautiful girl.
15.	<i>Omukhala-mwandu</i>	A child born outside wedlock.
16.	<i>Omwitsa-nanda</i>	A child whose mother got married while pregnant.
17.	<i>Omuchenda-nyina</i>	A child whose mother got married when she already had him/her.
18.	<i>Omukhana-mwandu</i>	A child whose mother gives birth after the death of the husband.

19. *Eyindilaa-si* A friend who is a back biter.
20. *Elitala-nga* A confused person.
21. *Mwande-nakhamuna* A traditional herb.
22. *Omwikula-nda* Firstborn.
23. *Ntsikale-manyenye* A person that rejects wise counsel.
24. *Liva-mwoyo* The soul.
25. *Olusia-nyama* Fishing line.
27. *Malonda-ng'ombe* Shoes made out of tyre commonly known as 'akala'
28. *Eshirenya-khwi* An insect that lives in a bunch of sticks.
29. *Mwikendi-nyama* The desert.
30. *Einenga-vutoyi* An insect that darts on water in streams and rivers.
31. *Ovutsia-nzukha* A hole for the snake.
32. *Ovutsia-mbava* A hole for the rat.
33. *Were -Khakaba* A God that gives.
34. *Elianda-nyungu* The crust that remains in a sufuria after cooking food.
35. *Inonda-valayi .* Pimple on a girl's face.
36. *Shimala-vandu* An area with many deaths.
37. *Omusira-nyimba* A person that neglects traditions.
38. *Eying'ombe-seta* A bull whose horns face opposite directions.
39. *Omusila-ng'ombe* The one who doesn't keep cattle.
40. *Eshisira-lwikho* The 11th cow in dowry payment/ a person that hates the clan or tribe.
41. *Eshitakha-lwikho* The 12th cow in dowry payment/ a person that lacks a tribe/clan.

42.	<i>Eshikala-muliango..</i>	The door closer after the death of the owner of the house.
43.	<i>Olumila-marionje</i>	The unknown disease.
44.	<i>Mwene-murava</i>	Owner of the land.
45.	<i>Eshiniaa-muliro.</i>	The cause of the problem.
46.	<i>Eshisolola-mare</i>	The herb that makes the mouth to be full of saliva.
47.	<i>Ovwambaa-chese</i>	Forget me not weed.
48.	<i>Amatsimayu</i>	Boiled water.
49.	<i>Amaliambwa</i>	Sweet potatoes.
50.	<i>Avarandulamarwi</i>	People with torn ears.
51.	<i>Sharavarechi</i>	The invincible.
52.	<i>Shikhuvayika</i>	Cow-peas leaves that never get cooked.

4.2:1 Categories of Nominal Compounds and their pragmatic functions

The first objective of the study sought to identify and categorize nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions. In order to achieve this objective, the study collected 174 compound nouns in Lukabarasi from which 52 nominal compounds were identified using the native speaker intuition and competence in identifying well-formed nominal compounds. Since the focus was on nominal compounds, the researcher did not include any other kind of nouns that may have been collected during the research. From the collected data, the following categories were revealed;

4.2.2 Nominal Compounds from the nominal category

In line with the first objective of identifying and categorizing nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions within the Lukabarasi language, this section focuses specifically on nominal compounds derived solely from the nominal category. This section will solely focus on nominal compounds that are formed by combining two nouns and not any other word category. By

examining these compounds, the researcher aims to provide insights into how Lukabarasi speakers utilize nominal elements to create complex meaning and explore the pragmatic functions served by such constructions. The following examples have been used to illustrate the findings:

Example 1: *Eshifimba* + *omurwe* = *eshifimbamurwe* (A person that disturbs people.)

N+N=CN

Noun+Noun=compound noun.

In the compounding process, the first word ends with a vowel sound, prefix *o-* of the second word is dropped due to the process of assimilation. The morphological process involved was dropping of the prefix of the second noun *O* which depicts singular and retaining the root word. *Eshifimba* (a boil or any swelling on the body). *Omurwe* (the head).

Such nouns cannot be interpreted as different entities but as a whole compound. The meaning cannot be realized semantically but pragmatically as the disturber. This was informed by the coded FDGs. If the nouns are separated, the meaning cannot be realized. The person who keeps disturbing others or causing problems is called *Eshifimbamurwe* (a person that disturbs people) in Lukabarasi language.

Mchombo (2008) had found that *N + N* compounding is less in Chichewa compounds but deverbal compounds are prevalent. In Lukabarasi speaking community, the common ones are *N+N= CN*.

It serves the pragmatic function of the disturber or the person who makes things standstill in a setting. *Eshifimbamurwe* (swelling on the head) is something dangerous and can cause failure of normal body functioning. Therefore, it is attributed to such a person with obnoxious behaviour to be a stumbling block in people's plans or conversation.

In Generative Morphological Theory (Brochner,1992), the speaker of a particular language has the ability to distinguish between well-formed and ill formed words. The rule governing compounding in the above example is dropping of the prefix of the second noun to form a compound noun. Whether it is well-formed or not, the native speaker uses the rule possessed to detect it. Another example of nominal compounds from nominal category is shown in example 2 below;

Example 2:

Inonda +*Avalayi* =*Inondavalayi* (a pimple on a girls face.)

The two separate nouns cannot derive intended meaning until they are combined into compounds. Their meanings are realized pragmatically as the pimple. Therefore, the meaning of the compound formed is sum of the total of the two nouns. The meaning of the compound nouns formed serves the pragmatic function. This is reinforced by Maduagwu (2010) who asserts that after compounding, the resultant compound may not have any semantic correlation with individual words that formed it. That is factual because in Lukabarasi compounding, the meaning of the compound noun formed is pragmatic and not some of the total of its constituents' nouns. Basing on this example 2 below

Inonda (something that follows others) and *valayi* (good or beautiful) when combined it means a pimple, which is not related to each individual noun that formed it. Katamba (1993) in LMT, reiterates that class of bases affected is specified, the affixes attached where it should be and the class in which resultant word belongs. Alternatively, it is addressed to serve a pragmatic function in Lukabarasi settings to dilute its effect to sound good rather than the boil on the face.

Example 3:

Ovutsia+Imbava =Ovutsiaambava (a hole where the rat enters.)

The compound *Ovustsiambaya* means the hole where the rat enters. The compound *Ovustiamba* meaning is pragmatically realised as the hole which is not dangerous, hence someone who is harmless or the deal that is not dangerous. As the second noun drops the prefix 'I', the first one duplicates the last vowel 'a' while the second noun drops the prefix as in example 1. The morphological processes included reduplication and deletion. The compound noun derived serves a pragmatic function of attitude with positive thoughts because the rat is harmless compared to the snake which is perilous. The trend repeats in example 4.

Example 4:

Ovutsia +Inzukha =Ovutsiaanzukha. (The snake hole which is dangerous.) Pragmatically, it means a no go zone or harmful, harsh and strict fellow. Attitudinally, it shows negative impact because the snake is dangerous and it teaches the audience or listeners never to follow the hole of the snake but a rat to reach the destination. The second noun drops the prefix 'I' while the first noun duplicates the last vowel 'a' for the resultant nominal compound to be realized as *ovutsiaanzukha*. The morphological processes included therein are reduplication and deletion.

Example 5: *Olimila +Amarionje =Olumilamarionje* (an unknown disease.)

Literally, it means the disease of swallowing pieces of ugali. Pragmatically, it is the unknown or hidden disease. Though it can be serious, it is addressed as less serious than it is hence showing positive attitude at the place of negativity or offensive to give hopes to the sympathisers of the patient. The second noun drops the prefix 'a' in order for the nominal compound to be realized as *olumilamarionje*. The process in this case is deletion which possibly is phonological process. This study investigates the phenomenon of vowel deletion within Lukabarasi nominal compounds.

Interestingly, Sasala (2020) also observes similar vowel deletion processes in Lukabarasi verbal nominals, suggesting a possible link between these morphological phenomena. This phenomenon also aligns with the findings of Kula (2012) who describes noun phrase constructions in Bemba where a noun can undergo deletion of its prefix when it combines with another noun to form a complex expression. An example of such a noun in Bemba is *kaatombamatipa* which means ‘a small bird which plays and eats its prey from the mud.’ The compound noun is formed by combining *akatomba* and *matipa*. The first noun loses its prefix ‘a’ and then reduplicates the vowel ‘a’ in the first noun for the compound to be realized as ‘*kaatombamatipa*’. In this example, the prefix of the first noun is deleted while in Lukabarasi the prefix of the second noun is the one that is deleted. This therefore implies that for compounding to take place as a morphological process, phonological process that occurs is deletion. Therefore, in Lukabarasi language, compounding involves deletion and duplication of sounds from one of the categories forming a nominal compound.

Example 6:

Malonda + Ing’ombe = Malondaang’ombe. *Malonda* means that follow and *ing’ombe* means cattle.

When combined as a compound noun, the meaning collectively changes as low quality shoes associated with looking after cattle. That is a pragmatic realization of compounds.

The dropping of a prefix from the second noun is a phonological process called dissimilation. The process of acquiring compound nouns in Lukabarasi involves prefixation, dissimilation and blending. Pragmatic process is where the two nominal meaning change to match with that of the prevailing environment. The formed compound noun has a pragmatic function which is negative attitude towards the shoes worn because they are of low quality because they are for looking after

cattle or driving them from one place to another. People who do such job are of low status in the community.

Bochner (1992) affirms that the native speaker has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill-informed words. Therefore, when compound nouns are formed correctly, the native speaker can generate such a rule that is in line with generative morphological theory. It is therefore, concluded that Lukabarasi has nominal compounds which have pragmatic functions.

A key assumption of lexical morphology is that the morphological components of a derived word are organized in a series of hierarchical strata (Allen 1978, Halle & Mohanan, 1985; Katamba, 1993; Kiparsky, 1982). In a multi-layered derived or inflected word, non-neutral

Lukabarasi compound nouns were categorized according to whether they are derived from only nouns or other word classes. Most of the compound nouns were derived from the combination of nouns for instance in table 4.1 number two.

Example 7

Omwene (noun) +Ingo (noun) =Omweneengo (compound noun). Owner +home = home-owner

The two nouns combine to form a nominal compound. During this process, in the second word, the first syllable is deleted. The first word then, duplicates the final vowel sound for the nominal compound to be realized a *omweneengo*. The compound serves a pragmatic function of positive attitude towards some people who are associated with ownership of the home. It is associated with men among the Kabarasi speaking community because they remain in the community. It also

depicts that you are not a visitor or a foreigner but part of the community. It gives a sense of belonging to the members of a particular setting.

Those compounds that combine a verb and noun or verb and verb are only two: Number 1 and 50.

Example 8:

Sinjila (verb) +Valeche (verb) = Sinjilavaleche

Stand +they despise =Stand-they-despise (The name of a place). The morphological processes involved included the combination of the two verbs to form a compound to depict the name of a place. The meaning is different from each of the two words combined. It has a pragmatic function of negative attitude towards the person whose place is named after. It is a statement from one person to the other at a place which is named. The community is concerned with backbiting and gossip until it gains the name.

Example 9:

Varandula(verb)+Amarwi (noun) =Avarandulamarwi

They tear +ears =Those with torn ears.

The three words, *the tearer, ears combined* to form the compound noun different from the individual words. It is pragmatically used to mean a community that had tattooed ears for cultural identity. It was used to hide the identity of the compound from such community. It serves the pragmatic function of negativity towards those with torn ears. It is a derogatory term for the Kalenjin community in traditional days when they used to fight with Kabarasi community or raid cattle from each other.

From these examples, Lukabarasi compound nouns can be categorised into two although most compounds combine the nouns only. The second category that takes verbs and nouns or verb-verb. The combination of verb-verb still forms the compound noun and verbs lose their functional group or word class. The process is morphological.

4.2.3 Nominal compounds from verbal categories

Basing on the data in table 4.1 above, it is found that the compound nouns formed from verbs are limited. It is only one in example 10

Sinjila (verb) +Valeche (verb)- stand + they despise.

Sinjila-valeche is the compound noun derived from two verbs to show the name of a place. It serves a pragmatic function of a place which was occupied by people who had no value in the community. According to Mchombo (2008), such compounds are numerous in Chichewa, meaning that compounding in Kabarasi is not exactly the same as Chichewa though they both belong to Bantu group of language. Most of the compounds take N +N to form CN.

4.2.4 Nominal compounds from nominal and verbal category

From the data collected, such evidence of combining nouns and verbs to form compounds is rare. Instead, the verbs are converted into nouns (function shift) before combining with other nouns, hence N +N is a common structure in Kabarasi compounding. In table 4.1, there are 35 out of 52 compound nouns formed by such trend. For instance,

Example 10

Shilia (eater from eat) +vakhana (girls).

The verb *eat* has been nominalized to be eater in order to fit into the pattern of Kabarasi compounding of Noun +Noun =Compound Noun. It is the name of an insect feared by ladies and

it is treated with negative attitude. It is used to scare the deviant girls away from their mistakes for the better.

Example 11:

Ovwamba (the attacher from attach) +Lichese (sheep)=Ovwambachese (forget me not)

The verb attached has been nominalized to be the attacher in order to fit into the pattern of Lukabarasi compounding of Noun + Noun= Compound Noun. Additionally, the second word in the nominal compound undergoes the phonological process of deletion of the first syllable for the nominal compound to be realized as *Ovwambachese*. The process of derivation of compound nouns formed observes the well-formedness condition to be acceptable in the community of speakers of Lukabarasi hence warranting less effort to pronounce it correctly. The weed serves attitudinal function of negativity because it attaches on the sheep and spoil the quality of wool. It attaches itself on personal clothes when passing where they have grown.

Example 12:

Elianda (that sticks from the verb stick) +Inyungu (pot) = Eliandanyungu (the remains of food especially potatoes that sticks in the pot).

The compound noun derived has pragmatic function of positive attitude towards the potato that sticks in the pot after boiling them. When arranging potatoes in the pot before cooking the biggest in size is placed at the bottom and ends up sticking there. It is well cooked and delicious to eat. It also shows energetic person who cannot be moved.

The finding from the above examples is in line with Taiwo (2014) who concluded that in Yoruba language, combining Noun +Verb, the verb changes from verbal to nominal. In Lukabarasi which

has N +N structure as the common one, most of the verbs lose their verbal category by being nominalised during compounding. GMT by Brochner (1992) highlights that the speaker has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill formed structures. The current study found that the native speakers of Lukabarasi can deverbilize the verbal category to nouns in order to combine with the nouns for well-formedness condition.

It is then obvious that in Lukabarasi, the nominal compounds are derived from phrases such as N +N, N+V and V +V only. The first one is commonest while the last two are rare in Lukabarasi. Therefore, the current study deviates from the Yoruba and Chichewa language.

4.3: Pragmatic Functions of Lukabarasi Nominal Compounds

The second objective sought to establish the pragmatic functions of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. The section uses the data in table 4.1 above to select examples shown below:

Example 13:

Eshinia +Omuliro=Eshiniaamuliro (the cause of the problem.)

When the two nouns are combined, their meaning is realized pragmatically as the cause of the problem or trouble. Hence defecating fire . It is used to identify the troublemaker in the society. It serves a pragmatic function of negativity in attitude. Among the Kabras speaking community people who are trouble makers are downgraded and are also referred to as *eshifimbamurwe* (head swelling).

The Lukabarasi nouns take prefixes as O-muliro

O- is the prefix of singular noun. The second one, *Eshi-nia*. *Eshi-* is also the prefix of singular noun.

When the two nouns are combined, they both drop the prefixes to fit into the morphology of Olukabarasi. Brochner (1992) explains that for well-formedness, the speaker of the language has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill formed structures. Therefore, in Lukabarasi, some nominal categories drop the prefixes to form compounds. It can be detected that CN are formed by the roots without prefixes. The meaning derived from the compound noun is pragmatically realized because it is different from each of the two words that combined to form it.

Example 14: *Omuchenda + Nende +Nyina =Omuchendaanyina*

The two nouns, the walker, mother and the conjunction *nende* (and) are combined and during the morphological process, the conjunction *nende* is dropped and the suffix *-a* of the first noun doubles to form a compound noun *Omuchendaanyina*. The meaning is pragmatically realized as the child who was already born when the mother married the current husband. *O-mu-chenda-a-nyina*

O is the prefix of singular noun, mu- is the affix of singular noun, *chenda* is the root word which is a verb for walk. When combined, they all become compound noun derived from the two nouns. The word walks and mother with prefix make the meaning of the compound noun derived different from each of the individual words. Therefore, the compound nouns formed have a pragmatic function in lexical items.

In this case, there is a conjunction in between the nouns to link them up. The child born and came with the mother during marriage is treated with negative attitude by the family in which the mother is married. It shows that Kabarasi speakers condemn the essence of the mother having children out of wedlock. The compound noun is attitudinal, gender biased and discriminative in nature.

Kula (2009) explained that associative phrases are compounds involving two nominals linked with an element which is associative marker. The trend is similar to some Lukabarasi compounds linked with a conjunction in example 15

Example 15:

Elianda +Inyungu =Eliandaanyungu.

Elianda is the food that sticks in the pot. *Inyungu* is the pot itself. Possibly the food that stuck in the cooking pot is the potato. The second noun *Inyungu* drops the prefix of singular *i* to be part of the compound noun *liandanyungu*. It was also established that the compound noun derived has pragmatic function since its meaning is different from the individual word that formed it.

After compounding, the resultant compound may not have any semantic correlation with individual words that formed it (Maduagwu, 2010). The current study found that compound formed is lacking correlations with individual words that formed it. This is an implication that the meaning is realised pragmatically by the native speaker of Lukabarasi.

The same trend repeats itself in the next example.

Example 16:

Eshilia +Avakhana=Eshiliavakhana.

The second noun has dropped the prefix of plural noun *a-* and pragmatically it means a particular insect. The noun cannot be interpreted singly to get the intended meaning until they combine the two to get the meaning pragmatically. When the compound is analysed using single words, then it is be interpreted as ‘a womanizer’ but pragmatically it means a particular insect. The cultural

and contextual understanding of the dialect is crucial for interpreting the intended meaning of these compounds.

Example 17:

Elirula +Inzu =Elirulaanzu

Elirula is augmentative of the woman who was once married but separated with the husband. *Inzu* is the house. *Elirulanzu* is the woman who has left the marriage (house).

The compound noun derived is pragmatically derogatory term that shows negative attitude towards the woman who earlier on married but later on divorced and comes back to her father's home from the home of matrimony. It is also gender discriminative against women because they have never formulated any compound noun for men who have divorced their wives. The nominal compound depicts that Kabarasi is a patriarchal society against women.

This process of affixation in Lukabarasi undergoes prefix detachment of the second word to conform to Lukabarasi morphology

In compounding, the second noun dropped a prefix *i* to be blended.

Furthermore, the study reveals that as the second noun drops the prefix, the first noun duplicates the last vowel. This is a phonological process. However, duplication of the last vowel is not in all cases but most cases. Among the 24 examples cited in chapter 4, example 3,4,6,7,10,11,12 and 14 involved dropping of the prefix of the second noun and duplicating the last vowel of the first noun. The exception is that the verb combination do not involve the phonological process of dropping and duplicating as in 4.1 number 2: *Sinjila +Valeche =Sinjila-valeche*

Basing on the data in 4.1, Lukabarasi has commonly prefixes of singular and plural nouns.

Singular prefixes include:

Omu-, Eshi-, Eli- while the plural prefixes include: *Ava-, Efi-, Ofu-*.

When combining the words to form compounds, the second noun drops the prefix and pragmatically the meaning of the compound noun is as a result of the total but not a single noun.

After compounding the two lexical items in Kabarasi, the compound noun derived, has a pragmatic function which cannot be realised when analyzed singly.

Kula (2009) in Bemba, being a Bantu language, also found that when two lexical items combine, the second one drops the prefix to be well-formed. However, there is need to establish whether the formed compound nouns have a pragmatic or semantic function in communication. Such is the concern of the current study.

In Lukabarasi derivation of compound nouns, the current study found that several morphological processes are put in place including nominalization of verbs, removal of prefixes and duplication of the last vowel of the first noun. In LMT by Kiparsky (1982), the rules that dictate the way a word is pronounced are inter-related with the rules that dictate the way the same word is structured. The output of each layer of derivation must be a possible word that does not violate the well-formedness constraint of the language. Each layer of derivation also needs to pass through the phonological rules that determine how the resulting word is to be pronounced.

4.3.1: Nominal Compounds with Metaphoric function.

These are metaphors which are understood based on their cultural and contextual understanding of the language is crucial for interpreting the intended meaning as seen in example 18 and 19 below;

Example 18:

Eshinia + *Omuliro* = *Eshiniaamuliro* (the cause of the problem.)

The one who defecates + Fire

In Lukabarasi, (*Eshinia*) means the person or thing that performs the act of defecating. While *Omuliro* means fire. These two nouns are combined to realize a meaning that pragmatically imply as ‘the cause of the problem’ and not the literal meaning of the individual nouns which form the compound. In this nominal compound, the meaning goes beyond the sum of its constituent parts.

Example 19:

Avarandula(verb)+*Amarwi* (noun) =*Avarandulamarwi*

Those who tear + ears = (People from the Nandi Community)

The words, *avarandula* (those who tear) and *amarwi* (ears) are combined to form the compound noun different from the individual words. It is pragmatically used to mean the Nandi community in Kenya that neighbors the Kabarasi . It was used to hide the identity of the compound from such community.

From the above examples, it can be noted that nominal compounds in Lukabarasi are more than just the sum of their parts. These compounds carry specific meanings that are deeply rooted in the language’s cultural and contextual nuances. To fully understand their intended meaning, it is essential to consider the cultural and contextual factors at play.

4.3.2: Nominal Compounds with Attitudinal Function.

Modifiers have classifying functions in nominal compounds. The study therefore found that modifiers have classifying and attitudinal function as illustrated in the following examples :

Example 20:

Sinjila Valeche (stand so that they despise) can be classified as attitudinal compound noun because it shows the name of a place which came as a result of the behaviour of people in the surrounding areas. Since they keep despising others, the community found its name.

It shows that the compound noun can express or identify the attitude of the speaker towards referent which can either be positive or negative.

Example 21:

Omuchendaanyina (the child who came with the mother) to show that the child does not belong to that family but the mother married while she had already given birth to the child whose father is different from the current one. This shows that the child who comes with the mother during marriage is neglected by that family. This shows the negative attitude towards the child.

Pragmatically, it can be a sign of gender disparity because the child whose father sired out of wedlock is not given any name that depicts discrimination.

Example 22:

Ovutsiaambava (the hole of the rat). Such a compound noun serves the pragmatic function of positive attitude. In Kabarasi community, the hole of the rat is regarded as safer than that of the snake (*Ovutsiaanzukha*). The hole which the snake enters is dangerous and regarded with negativity.

Example 23:

Omulimaanjila (The digger of the road) . Pragmatically, the one who digs on the road was treated as antisocial person who does not want people to pass near his or her home. The society develops negative attitude towards the person.

Example 24:

Eshifimbamurwe (disturbing person). The compound noun serves the pragmatic function of attitudinal by depicting negative attitude towards the person who disturbs others by being called such a name. The compound noun serves the function of hiding the identity of the wrongdoer by using such name. These examples show evidence that most of the Kabarasi community compound nouns are attitudinal.

Example 25:

Elitalaanga (a confused person). The society fails to value them and uses the name to ridicule unwanted people in the community.

Example 26:

Sharavarechi (Defeated the trappers). It depicts the invincible people in the society. Such can be notorious in stealing or deviation from the norms of the society.

Example 27:

Amaliambwa (food for dogs). It is a derogatory term used to refer to sweet potatoes which were meant for dogs, meaning that they are of less value in the community. During famine they appear to be common hence people become fed up with them and use such a compound noun to make reference to them.

Example 28:

Eshikhuvaika (wild Cowpeas leaves). The wild vegetables that closely resembles the cowpeas leaves yet when boiled, it does not get cooked. It has a pragmatic function of referring to a person who is conservative in nature (not willing to accept change at all).

Example 29:

Omusilaang'ombe (hater of cattle). The person who hates cattle or never keep them at all.
Eshitakhalwikho (no family relationship). People are far from the other in family lineage such as coming after the great grandchildren or not related to the family. According to the lexical morphological theory by Kiparsky (1982) the word formation process follows the rules for the well-formedness and the native speakers of that language have tacit rules that dictate the way they are pronounced.

According to the pragmatic functions of the compound nouns formed from the combination of noun+verb, noun +noun, verb +verb, they can be further classified as gender biased, positive thoughts and negative thoughts.

Those which are gender biased tend to discriminate or disadvantage female gender such as on table 4.1 number 2, 6, 9,15, 16, 17, 18, 35, and 44. From these it can be deduced that some compound nouns are gender biased against women but none is against men.

There are those compound nouns with positive and negative attitude towards the referent. Those with positive thoughts include:

Ovutsiaambava (The hole of the rat), *Omeikulaanda* (first born), *Omwikalaanda* (last born), *Mweneengo* (owner of the home), *Sheneekhombe* (owner of the place), *Omwana inyanya* (child

tomato -beautiful girl) -This is also a metaphor realized pragmatically as beautiful girl among the Luhya community.

Eliandaanyungu (Sticker on the pot) to mean the potato that sticks in the pot during cooking and it is always delicious food for human consumption. *Elivamwoyo* (the soul).

There are those compound nouns that depict negative attitude towards others which include:

Sinjila-valeche (stand they despise), *Omulimaanjila* (The road digger), *Elirulanzu* (divorced wife), *Eshifimbamurwe* (disturber), *Avarandulamarwi* (ear torn people). People with tattooed ears and mostly from neighbouring Kalenjin community. *Eshiniamuliro* (trouble maker), *Eyinondavalayi* (the boil), *Omwambukhamuchela* (The one who crosses the river) to mean a stranger in the community. The community developed negative attitude towards strangers especially in olden days. *Elirulaanzu* (divorced wife), *Omwitsananda or Omuchendaanyina* (The conceived or born before marriage of the mother) and is treated with reservation and negative attitude as not part of their blood line., *Eyindilaasi* (eating from underground), pragmatically means a backbiter. Such person is treated negatively in the society.

4.3.3: Nominal compounds with Identifying Function

The nominal compounds in Lukabarasi can also form an identifying function apart from attitudinal functions discussed above. This is by identifying groups of people who belong to different communities from the present community being Lukabarasi. The following are examples of nominal compounds with identifying function:

Example 30:

Avarandulamarwi (Torn eared people) to mean non-native speakers. They are people who belonged to the neighbouring Nandi community and were therefore not speakers of Lukabarasi.

Example 31:

Mwenemurava (owner of the land) to discriminate against non-native speakers of Lukabarasi. This therefore means that there are those who reside among the Kabarasi but are not native speakers. It also translates to the fact that there are those within the community but do not necessary own land.

Example 32:

Sheneekhombe (owner of the place) to prove that there are others who lack ownership.

Other examples of nominal compounds with identifying function include *Muchendaanyina* (Walked with the mother) to discriminate against the child born out of wedlock or before marriage, *Eshikhuvaika* (Wild Cowpeas) to show someone who is conservative or resistant to change, *Omuchendananda* (Walks in the womb) to show discrimination against the child conceived before the marriage of the mother in the community. Such child had no right to inherit the property such as land from the foster father. *Omwambukhamuchela* (The one who crosses the river) to mean discrimination against the foreigner who is not a native speaker of Lukabarasi or bought the land without necessarily being born there. It is found that Kabarasi people have many compound nouns formed to identify strangers from natives.

4.3.4: Nominal Compounds with Classifying Function.

The study also unearthed that there are some compound nouns with classifying functions where some people are classified according to their status in the community for instance, people of high status are regarded with dignity and addressed as *Mweneengo* (owner of the home), *Sheneekhombe* (owner of the place), *Mwenemurava* (Owner of the community or certain place)

There are those compound nouns that shows people of low status in the society such as : *Elitalaanga* (A foolish or confused person), *Eshiliavakhana* (Girls eater) the person dangerous to

girls or women in the community. *Amaliambwa* (eaten by dog) to show people who eat sweet potatoes in their livelihood as of low status. *Amaloondang'ombe* (Cattle follower) to symbolize poverty because they are shoes worn by the people who have low self-esteem or low economic status. Dress code is used to classify people in social settings as evidenced by the nominal compound *amaloondang'ombe*.

4.4: Analysis of Nominal Compounds within Lexical Morphological theory

Introduction to objective three

This section presents objective three that attempts to analyze nominal compounds within lexical morphological theory.

According to Pesetsky (1979) and Kiparsky (1982), lexical morphological theory proposes that each morphological level is associated with phonological rules that define its domain and application. The best illustration is example 18:

Example 33:

Shisolola + Amare (Gatherer + Saliva) The herb that is chewed to make the mouth full of saliva

The noun *Shisolola* is combined with the noun *amare* then the second noun drops the prefix *a-* to be combined with the first noun, hence a phonological process of dissimilation. Morphological rule governs compounding as a morphological process. In Lukabarasi, two words are combined into one compound word by the first word ending with *-a* and the second one dropping the prefix to be well-formed.

A good morphological model is one that can lead to prediction of the formation of a word rather than insist on listing individual words or morphemes in a language. One such model is the

Generative Morphological Model whose basic principle is that a speaker has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill-formed words (Bochner, 1992)

Example 34:

Ovwamba +Lichese =Ovwambachese.

The verb *okhwamba* is used to derive the noun *Ovwamba*. During the morpho-phonemics the two nouns combine by the second one dropping the singular prefix *Li* to be *Chese*, hence *Ovwambachese*.

Kiparsky (1982), explains that the rules that dictate the way a word is pronounced are inter-related with the rules that dictate the way the same word is structured.

Example 35:

Eshirenya+Tsikhwi=Eshirenyakhwi (the gatherer +firewood=firewood gatherer).

The prefix of plural *tsi* is dropped off during morphological process of combining. Dropping off is for well-formedness of the compound noun. If it is not dropped the compound noun derived fails to fit into the morphological pattern of Lukabarasi nominal compounds.

Example 36:

A-matsi +A-mayu =Amatsimayu (boiled or hot water. The first noun retains the prefix of singular but the second one drops the prefix *-a* to form compound noun. The morphological Process of dropping prefix of the second noun of the compound makes it fit into the pattern of Lukabarasi nominal compounds.

Example 37:

Olusia + Inyama = Olusianyama (fishing string)

The second noun dropped prefix *i* to form a compound noun as the Lukabarasi morphological rules dictate.

Example 38:

Eyindiila + hasi = Eyindiilasi (eater + down = eater down). When combined, the meaning of the compound noun derived is pragmatically realised as the backbiter. During compounding the second noun dropped prefix *h*. for well-formedness condition of the compound noun in Lukabarasi. This shows that the Kabarasi people have negative attitude towards the backbiter and treats them as low status.

Example 39:

Eshikhuvi + liyika = shikhuvayika (Cowpeas + cooking stone)

Morphologically, the first noun substituted *i* with *a* during suffixation and the second noun dropped prefix *li* for the well-formedness condition of the compound noun derived in Lukabarasi.

During compounding the second noun dropped prefix *h*. For well-formedness condition of the compound noun in Lukabarasi. One such model is the Generative Morphological Model whose basic principle is that a speaker has tacit rules that make it possible to distinguish between well-formed and ill-formed words (Bochner, 1992)

Kiparsky (1982) explains that level ordered morphology relates the positional properties of affixes to their phonological properties. He further reiterates that affixes change the phonological process

of the word. In this case, during the phonological process of compounding, the second noun drops the prefix. This shows that the prefix is dissimilated by the surrounding sounds.

The Kabarasi compounds can be analysed within generative lexicon approach because it has numerous occasions where compound nouns are formed by combining two word categories such as : $N+N$, $N+V$, $V+V$ but the commonest pattern is $N+N$. Therefore, the most elements that form the compound nouns are nouns, nouns and verbs but the case of verb and verb to form compounds is minimal.

Abbas (2021) describes compound noun as the lexical unit consisting of more than one base and functioning both grammatically and semantically as a single word. From the above description, it is deduced that compound nouns are treated as mere lexical items and compounding is a productive word formation process.

According to the findings of the current study, compounding is a morphological processes in which most words are formed. The compound nouns formed serve a pragmatic function because the CN formed derive the meaning which is different from the combination of the two nouns.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1: Introduction

This chapter provides a summary of the findings and the conclusions drawn from the three objectives. The study sought to identify and categorize nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions, analyze the derivative and pragmatic aspects of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and finally to determine the extent to which Lukabarasi nominal compounds can be analysed within the generative lexicon approach. The study was guided by The Generative Morphological Theory by Bochner, (1992) and the Lexical Morphological Theory proposed by Petesky, (1979) and later elaborated by Kiparsky, (1982)

5.2 Summary

This study investigated the morpho-pragmatics of Lukabarasi nominal compounds. Nominal compounds were the objects of study in this study. Purposive sampling method was used to get the required data. 52 utterances were selected in the course of the research. This number of utterances was appropriate to achieve the objectives of the study. The study employed the use of

Focus Group Discussions (FDGs), audio recording and unstructured oral interviews in collecting data. These techniques enabled the recording of relevant data aimed at addressing research questions. The data was analyzed using descriptive research design. The study applied the Generative Morphological Theory Bochner, (1992) and the Lexical Morphological Theory Kiparsky, (1982) to achieve the objectives of the study.

5.2.1: Identifying Nominal Compounds and their Pragmatic Functions.

The study aimed at identifying the nominal compounds and their pragmatic functions in Lukabarasi and the study reveals that Lukabarasi language has nominal compounds as the word formation process. The two words are combined to form one compound and the pragmatic function is not the same as that of individual words in isolation.

The two words that are combined have different meanings but when combined, the meaning is implied according to Lukabarasi language culture. Pragmatic functions of derivative compounds included attitudinal, identifying and classifying functions. Attitudinal function involved feeling of someone towards something which can be positive or negative, identifying functions are for discriminative purpose whether the person belongs to the community or is a stranger, male or female and finally classifying functions are nominal compounds that classify people according to their status in the society. Lexical morphological theory by Katamba, (1992) asserts that the output of each layer of derivation must be a possible word that does not violate the well-formedness constraint of a language.

The study found that Kabarasi compound nouns are categorized into two: Those combined by two nouns and those by either verb and noun or two verbs. Significant number of compounds are formed by combining only nouns as indicated in the data of 4.1.

However, when combining a noun and a verb in most cases, the verb loses its verbal category to form a nominal category to fit into the pattern of Kabarasi compounding. Most of the nouns compounded were formed from verbs. This is slightly different from Kula (2009) who found that in Bemba, compounds involving only nominal roots are rare and have fixed meaning. In Kabarasi most of the compounds involve only nominal roots. Morpho-phonological processes involved included assimilation, dissimilation and deletion.

5.2.2: Derivative and Pragmatic Aspects of Lukabarasi Nominal Compounds.

Objective two aimed at analyzing the derivatives and the pragmatic aspects of Lukabarasi nominal compounds and the type of affixes they take. It was found that compound words of Lukabarasi are derived by combining the words with affixes. The type of affixes in Lukabarasi are prefixes. When the two words are combined, the second noun drops the prefix for the well-formedness condition.:

It is deduced that during the derivation of the compound nouns, the two phonological processes that take place are that the second noun drops the prefix but the first one duplicates the last vowel. Duplication of the last vowel of the first word is not in all cases but some.

Naseeb & Ibrahim (2017) had explained that derivation is creation of new words from old by prefixation and suffixation. In Kabarasi derivation is by compounding which involves suffix and prefix deletion before compounding for well-formedness of the compound nouns (Bochner, 1992).

Katamba (1993) in lexical morphological theory reiterates that each layer of derivative aspect needs to pass through phonological rules that determine how the resulting word is to be pronounced. The compound noun has to undergo a phonological process of dropping the prefix of the second noun for well-formedness. It was also established that in Kabarasi speaking community, people are grouped by social status and it is a patriarchal community due to nominal compounds that discriminate against women in terms of their marital status. Kabarasi community is concerned with

discrimination against strangers in their midst by use of compound nouns formed against them and those which cherish the native speakers because of their sense of belonging to the community.

5.2.3: Analysis within The Generative Lexicon Approach

Objective three aims at determining the extent to which Lukabarasi nominal compounds can be analyzed within Generative Morphological theory (GMT). It is effective in analyzing nominal compounds in Lukabarasi because the words combine under the phonological rule by dropping the prefix of the second noun while retaining both root and prefix of the initial noun. Booij (2005) found that in Bemba language, two morphological processes are compounding and derivation, which is similar to Kabarasi. This shows that Kabarasi and Bemba language have some similarities in morphological processes and therefore, they belong to Bantu group of language with exception of the fact that Bemba language takes a few cases of N +N which dominates Lukabarasi.

Katamba (1993) in LMT explained that there is a symbiotic relationship between morphological and phonological rules of word formation processes. Compounding is a morphological process while dropping of the prefix for well-formedness is a phonological process. The meaning of the compound noun is pragmatic because it varies depending on the cultural environment from which the noun is derived.

Each layer of a derivation also needs to pass through phonological rules that determine how the resulting word is to be pronounced (Katamba, 1993).

5.3: Conclusion

From the findings in the study, it is concluded that nominal compounds in Lukabarasi are derived by combining two words where the second bit of the compound noun drops the prefix. The compound noun is formed by the words with only prefix but not suffix. Therefore, Lukabarasi language has nominal compounds with prefixes and roots. In most cases, the compound nouns that

drop off the prefix of the second word also duplicates the last vowel of the first noun hence, long vowel sound. In some cases, the verb loses its verbal category to noun in order to combine with the second noun for well-formedness condition in Kabarasi morphology. There is also a situation where the compound noun is derived from two roots without prefixes.

It is also concluded that Lukabarasi nominal compounds have only prefix but no suffix like is the case with English. Such compounds have a pragmatic function in Lukabarasi settings. Compounding is one of the richest morphological processes in Lukabarasi and each time the words are continually formed through it with pragmatic functions in communication among the Kabarasi speaking community.

Lukabarasi nominal compounds are analyzed within LMT by Katamba (1993) which explains that for the well-formedness of the nominal compound, phonological and morphological rules should be followed. In this case, compounding is a morphological process while the dropping of the prefix is a phonological process. Kabarasi, like other languages has its own morphology that makes it unique in compounding and such morphological processes include deletion, assimilation compounding, nominalization and derivation.

5.4: Recommendations

1. Since Lukabarasi is one of the Luhya Languages, it should be treated according to its own uniqueness in terms of word formation processes. The compound nouns should be realized pragmatically by the native speakers because non-native speakers may give a misleading interpretation. Compounding is one of the major processes of word formation in Lukabarasi and since it is a minority language it has the danger of facing extinction. This therefore means that the findings on nominal compound formation can inform the development of Lukabarasi lexicons and

dictionaries. A comprehensive dictionary should account for both individual words and the way they combine into compounds. Understanding the rules and patterns identified can aid in accurately representing these compounds in lexical resources.

2. The unique morphology of Lukabarasi nominal compounds presents interesting challenges for language learners. The insights from the study can be applied to develop more effective teaching materials that address these specific morphological processes. This can benefit both native speakers seeking to enhance their understanding and second language learners acquiring Lukabarasi.

3. This study contributes to the documentation and analysis of Lukabarasi, an under-represented language. The findings can be valuable for language preservation initiatives. By understanding how nominal compounds function, language activists can create more effective strategies for promoting and maintaining the language.

4. Researchers could explore the possibility of developing computational models to automatically identify and analyze Lukabarasi nominal compounds. This could be a valuable tool for linguists and language processing applications.

5.5: Areas for further research

The current study has done the analysis on compounding, derivation, pragmatic functions of the compound nouns, the rules of compounding and affixation in Lukabarasi. This is not exhaustive, hence need for future study on other word formation processes in Lukabarasi in addition to compounding for comparison purposes.

The study adopted lexical morphological theory to review the literature and analyze the data. However, the future study can explain word formation processes in Lukabarasi in the framework of other linguistic theories to compare the outcome.

The current study analyzed the Kabarasi compounding as a morphological process, hence it is recommended that future study should be done on the process of compounding in other languages spoken Luhya community to ascertain whether it can show the same results as this.

Language is dynamic and so the same study can be repeated after 5 or more years.

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APPENDICES.

Appendix 1: Informants

Interview Guide.

Introduction.

Elichela lino lilalenesianga amera ka olukabarasi nende okhutinyilisia kaba bari okhura alala khubere nende eyinganga okhulomba amakhuba okhutsiririra mulukabarasi.

This interview aims at identifying nominal compounds in Lukabarasi and establishing whether compounding is a productive word formation process in Lukabarasi.

Questions.

1. Where do you come from?
2. What is your dialect?

3. What is your level of education?
4. What is your specialization if any?
5. Name any Kabarasi nominal compounds you know.
6. What is the meaning of the compound nouns formed?
7. Is it pragmatic or semantic?

Thank you for accepting to be part of the interview.

Appendix II: Focus Group Discussion Guide.

Introduction.

My name is Lukania Robai Valentine and I am a resident of Butali, Kabras. Thank you for accepting to be part of this study. The information you give will be used with confidentiality and only for purposes of this linguistic study.

A. Respondents Particulars.

Erika (Age):

Eyizu (Marital Status):

Wawebulwa (Place of birth):

Etsinimi (Languages that you speak):

Ewoti (Ward):

Emilimo (Occupation):

Obusomi (Education Level):

B. Discussion Guide.

1. For how long have you stayed in Kabarasi?
2. Could you name other languages that you speak ?
3. Could you briefly tell names of things in your language?
4. Do you know Kabarasi names of things that are formed as a result of combining two words?
5. What is the meaning of the compound nouns you have mentioned?
6. Is the meaning semantic or pragmatic?

7. What happens to the word if the order of the two words combining to form a compound word is changed?

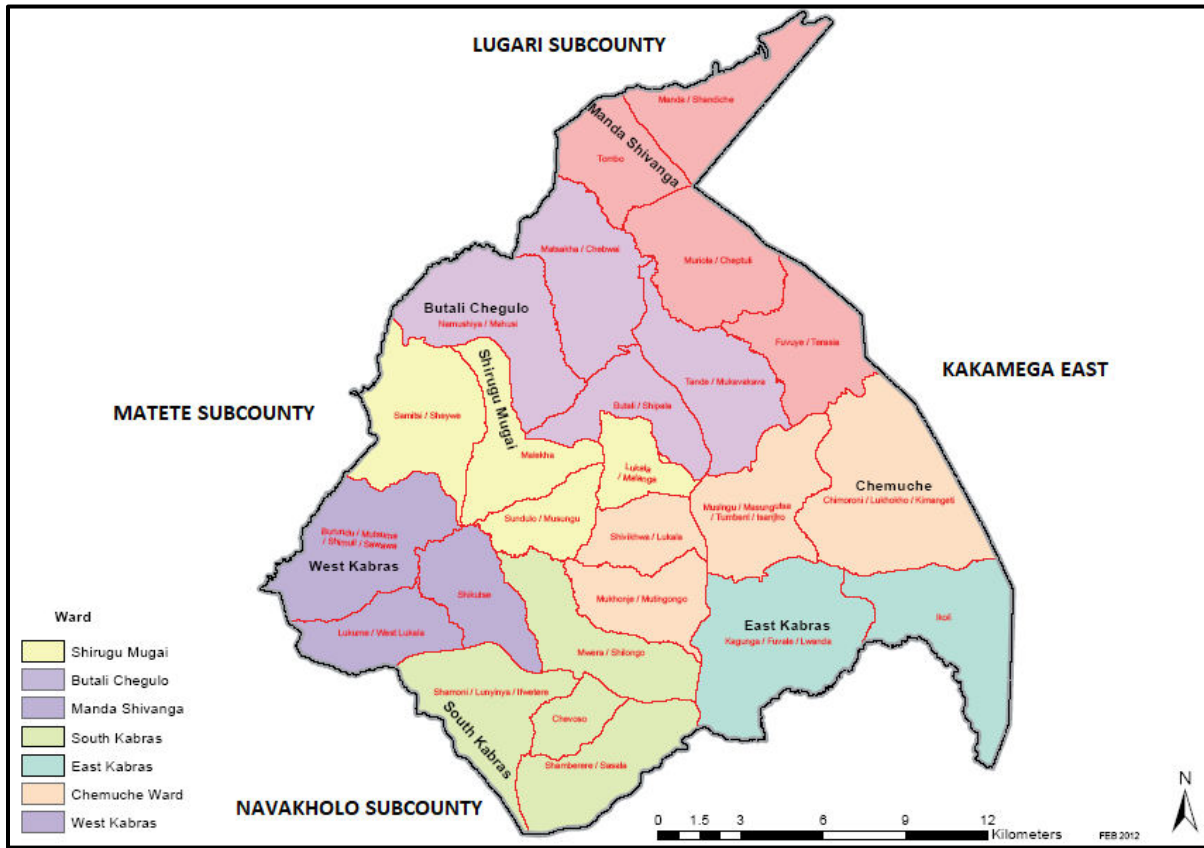
8. From the nominal compounds mentioned in the discussed, kindly classify for me the compounds based on their functions i.e. metaphoric functions, attitudinal functions, identification function and finally, classification function.

9. Are there any compounds that serve a discriminatory purpose in Lukabarasi dialect of the Luhya language?

Appendix III: Data Extraction Guide.

Noun in Lukabarasi.	Gloss.

Appendix VI: Map of the Study Area.



Source: Google Maps 2019