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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Reduplication in English Children's Songs in YouTube: A Morphological Study

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ABSTRACT

The study is qualitative descriptive research of a morphological analysis of reduplication in English children's songs in YouTube. The study identifies what is meant by reduplication phonologically and morphologically. It also shows the types reduplication. The data is selecting (21) English children's songs and analyzing them according to types of reduplication (full and partial reduplication). The conclusions show what types of reduplication are used in English children's songs.

Keywords: Morphology, Phonology, Word formation process, Repetition, Reduplication

Introduction

Reduplication is a process of forming words by either repeating the whole word or part of words with some changes in consonants or vowels. This study deals with selecting English children's songs from YouTube and analyzing these songs according to the types of reduplication in English. The interesting side of this study is the focus on how children repeat words as if there is a rhyme and rhythm, as appears in songs for children. The study tries to answer the following questions:

1. What are the main types of reduplication phonologically and morphologically?
2. What are the functions of reduplication?
3. What are the types of reduplication in English songs of children?

The study aims at:

1. Identifying the types of phonological and morphological reduplication.
2. Identifying the types of reduplication in some English songs of children.

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Literature review

Reduplication

Reduplication is forming a new word by repeating a word with or without changes in consonants or vowels (Stageberg, 1981, p. 127). While Katamba (1993, p. 85) defines reduplication as an affixation process which includes a free morpheme to the initial or final part or within the base.

Reduplication is “a morphological process in which one or more elements is copied from the base. It is used in many world languages with various types and uses.” (Iqab, 2010, p. 1). In Al-Timimi (2020) and Umar (2012) of reduplication, the study shows that it is a challenge to translate reduplication from Arabic to English. While Mansur (2022, p. 1) state that “word-formation represents all the processes of morphological variation in the constitution of words”.

Types of reduplication in english

The main types of reduplication in english

1. Full or Exact Reduplication

Full or exact reduplication means the same word is doubled without any changes in meaning and without any changes in consonants or vowels. For instance, (**tick-tick, chug-chug, clop-clop, aye-aye, doo-doo, fifty-fifty, go-go, and ha-ha**) (Stageberg, 1981, p. 128; Crystal, 2003, p. 130).

2. Partial Reduplication

Partial reduplication means the word is copied partially with some changes in consonant or vowel sounds (Spencer & Zwicky, 2001, p.132; Stageberg, 1981, p. 128).

Partial reduplication is divided into two divisions:

(a) Rhyming Reduplication

Rhyming reduplication is a type of partial reduplication which deals with repeating a word with a change at initial consonant in reduplicated word. It is called rhyming reduplication because the rest of the letters of the reduplicated word is like a rhyme. For Instance, (**razzle-dazzle, hanky-panky, rag-tag, willy-nilly, namby-pamby, fuddy-duddy, and roly-poly**) (Stageberg, 1981).

(b) Ablaut Reduplication

Ablaut reduplication is a type of partial reduplication which shows that the word is partially doubled with a change in the vowel in the middle of the word. The change is from a high vowel to a low vowel in the reduplicated word. For instance, (**tip-top, hip-hop, ding, dong, chit-chat, flip-flop, wishy-washy, zig-zag, and criss-cross**) (Spencer & Zwicky, 2001, p. 132; Stageberg, 1981, p. 128).

The main types of reduplication are illustrated in Fig. 1:

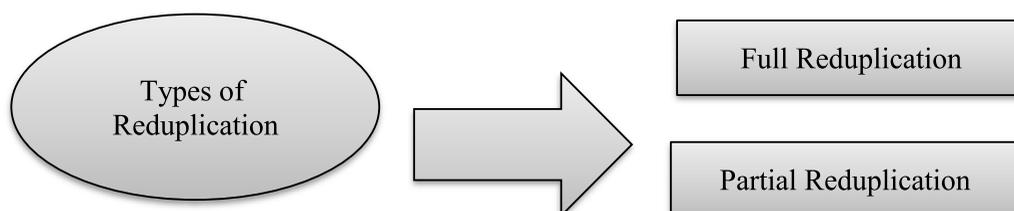


Fig. 1. Main types of reduplication.

While the types of partial reduplication are illustrated in Fig. 2:

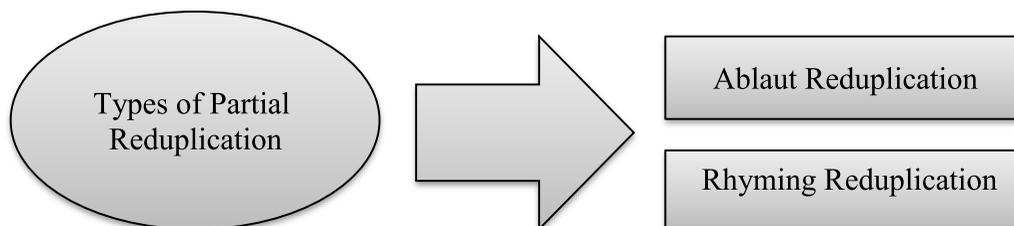


Fig. 2. Types of partial reduplication.

Minor types of reduplication

There are other types of reduplication as illustrated in Fig. 3:

1. Sh-reduplication

This type of reduplication is used in American English from Yiddish of New York City). For instance, (baby-shmaby, and cancer-shmancer) (Thun, 1963).

2. Comparative reduplication

This type is used with the comparative degree (er). For example, (John's apple looked redder and redder).

3. Contrastive focus reduplication

This type is used mostly with full reduplication. For example, (Do you want milk?) (No, I want milk milk).

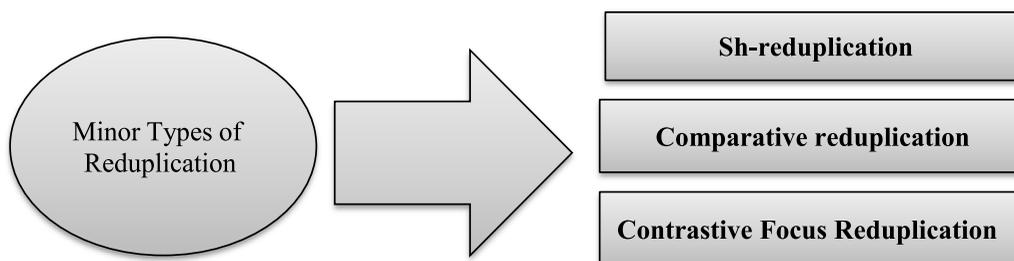


Fig. 3. Minor types of reduplication.

Methodology

This study shows the following methodology. First, an introduction about reduplication. Second, literature review includes definitions of reduplication, types and functions of reduplication. Third, research methodology is shown. Fourth, data analysis and discussion and the data is (21) English children songs from YouTube. Fifth, the results of the study is being clarified. The last one is the conclusion of the present study is being identified.

Data analysis and discussion

This paper is a qualitative descriptive study of the types of phonological and morphological reduplication in English songs of children in YouTube. The research sample is

about (21) English children songs are selected from YouTube and analyzed into types of reduplication according to (full or partial reduplication).

It also shows the types of partial reduplication which are divided into (ablaut and rhyming reduplication) as illustrated in [Table 1](#).

Table 1. Types of reduplication in english children songs in YouTube.

No.	English Children Songs	Types of Reduplication		
		Full or Exact Reduplication	Partial Reduplication	
			Ablaut reduplication	Rhyming reduplication
1	After a while, Crocodile	“bye-bye”		
2	“Tip-Top Rain is Falling”		“tip-top”	
3	“Row Row your Boat”	”row-row” “merrily-merrily”		
4	“Razzle-Dazzle”			-“Razzle-Dazzle” “ding-dong”-
5	Johnny Johnny, yes, papa	“Johnny-Johnny”		
6	“Tick-tock I am a little cuckoo clock”		“tick-tock”	
7	“Wheels on the Bus”	“swish-swish” “beeb-beeb” “waa-waa”		
8	“Hickory-Dickory Dock”		“tick-tock”	“Hickory-dickory”
9	“Five Little Ducks”	“quak-quak”		
10	“Criss-cross applesauce”		“criss-cross”	
11	“Clap Clap Stomp Stomp Giramille”	“clap-clap” and “stomp-stomp” “baa-baa”		
12	“Baa-Baa Black Sheep”			
13	“Humpty-Dumpty”			“humpty-dumpty”
14	“Twinkle Twinkle little star”	“twinkle-twinkle”		
15	“Hanky-Panky”			-“hanky-panky” “back-pack”-
15				“Rolly-polly”
16	“Rolly-polly Roll”	“hop-hop” “wiggle-wiggle”		
17	“chit-chat chicken”		“chit-chat”	
18	“Hockey-Pokey”			“hockey-pokey”
19	“Wishy-washy washer woman”		“wishy-washy”	
20	“Chilly-willy”			“Chilly-willy”
21	“splish-splash”		“splish-splash”	

Results

The findings of the study are as the following:

Full or exact reduplication

1. In the song “**After a while, Crocodile**”, there is full reduplication “**bye-bye**” in which the same word is repeated without any changes.
2. In the song “**Wheels on the Bus**”; there are repeated words “**swish-swish**”, “**beeb-beeb**”, and “**waa-waa**” which are regarded as exact reduplication.
3. In the song “**Johnny Johnny, yes, papa**”, the title of the song contains full reduplication in the words “**Johnny-Johnny**” and “**papa**”.
4. In the song “**Five Little Ducks**”, there is full reduplication in the words “**quak-quak**”.

5. In the song “**Row Row your Boat**”, there is exact reduplication the words “**row-row**” and “**merrily-merrily**”.
6. In “**Baa-Baa Black Sheep**” song, the title contains full reduplication “**baa-baa**”.
7. In the song “**Clap Clap Stomp Stomp Giramille**”, there is full reduplication in the words “**clap-clap**” and “**stomp-stomp**”.
8. In the song “**Twinkle Twinkle little star**”, the song contains full reduplication “**twinkle-twinkle**”.
9. In “**Rolly-polly Roll**” song, the reduplicated words which are regarded as full reduplication are “**hop-hop**” and “**wiggle-wiggle**”.

Partial reduplication

1. In the song “**Tip-Top Rain is Falling**”, the song contains ablaut reduplication “**tip-top**” in which there is a vowel change in the reduplicated word in the middle of the word.
2. In “**Razzle-Dazzle**” song, there are two types of partial reduplication: rhyming reduplication in “**razzle-dazzle**” in which the change in the initial consonant “r” and “d”. The second type is ablaut reduplication in “**ding-dong**” in which there is a change in the vowel in the middle of the word.
3. In “**Tick-tock I am a little cuckoo clock**” song, the title contains “**tick-tock**” which is regarded as partial reduplication “ablaut reduplication of vowel change in the middle of the word.
4. In “**Hickory-Dickory Dock**” song, there are two types of partial reduplication in this song: the first is rhyming reduplication in which the consonant is changed in the beginning of the word “h” and “d” “**Hickory-dickory**”. The second type is ablaut reduplication in which there is vowel change “**tick-tock**”.
5. In “**Criss-cross applesauce**” song, “**criss-cross**” is an ablaut reduplication in which there is vowel change.
6. In “**Humpty-Dumpty**” song, “**humpty-dumpty**” is regarded as partial reduplication “rhyming reduplication” in which there is a change in the initial consonant.
7. In “**Hanky-Panky**” song, there is partial reduplication of the rhyming type in “**hanky-panky**” and “**back-pack**”.
8. In “**chit-chat chicken**” song, the title of the song contains ablaut reduplication in which there is a change of vowels in the middle of the word “**chit-chat**”.
9. In “**Hockey-Pokey**” song, there is partial reduplication of rhyming type in which there is a change of initial consonant “**hockey-pokey**”.
10. In “**Wishy-washy washer woman**” song, there is partial reduplication of ablaut reduplication type in which there is a change of vowel in the middle of word “**wishy-washy**”.
11. In “**Chilly-willy**” song, there is partial reduplication of rhyming type in which there is a consonant change at the beginning of the word “**chilly-willy**”.
12. In the song “**splish-splash**” song, there is partial reduplication of ablaut reduplication type in which there is a change of vowel in the middle of word “**splish-splash**”.

Conclusion

The conclusions of the study are as the following:

1. Reduplication words are found in English children songs on You Tube.

2. Most English songs of children contain full or exact reduplication in which the same word is repeated without any changes as in “bye-bye”, “swish-swish”, “beeb-beeb”, “waa-waa”, “Johnny-Johnny”, “papa, papa”, “quak-quak”, “row-row”, “merrily-merrily”, “baa-baa”, “clap-clap”, “stomp-stomp”, “twinkle-twinkle”, “hop-hop” and “wiggle-wiggle”.
3. Most English songs of children contain partial reduplication of **rhyiming** type in which the initial consonant is changed as in “roly-poly”, “wishy-washy”, “Humpty-Dumpty”, and “razzle-pazzle”, and hanky-panky”.
4. Most English songs of children contain partial reduplication of **ablaut** reduplication in which there is a change of vowel sound in the middle of the word as in “tip-top”, “tick-tock”, “criss-cross”, “chit-chat”, “wishy-washy”, “splish-splash”, and “ding-dong”.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interests.

Author contribution

Asst.Lec. Amal Awda Ghadab Conducted all aspects of the research, including conceptualisation, methodology, data collection and analysis, and writing the manuscript.

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الاتباع في اغاني الاطفال الانكليزية في اليوتيوب: دراسة صرفية

م.م. امال عودة غضاب

جامعة الشطرة – كلية التربية للبنات

المستخلص

هذه الدراسة هي بحث وصفي نوعي للتحليل الصرفي للاتباع في أغاني الاطفال الإنجليزية على اليوتيوب: دراسة صرفية. تحدد الدراسة ما المقصود بالاتباع الصوتي والصرفي. وتوضح كذلك أنواع الاتباع وأهميته ولاسيما أهميته للأطفال. وقد تم اختيار (21) أغنية أطفال إنجليزية وتحليلها وفقاً لأنواع الاتباع (الاتباع التام والاتباع الجزئي). وتوضح الاستنتاجات أنواع الاتباع المستخدم في أغاني الأطفال الإنجليزية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: علم الصرف, علم الاصوات الكلامية, تكوين الكلمة, التكرار, و الاتباع.