



# Productivity Patterns in Morphology: A Comparison of English and Urdu Negative Prefixes attached to Inherited and Borrowed Roots

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**Abstract-** This study explores formation of negative prefixes in English (L1) and Urdu (L2) and etymology of corresponding root words. It focused on a broad comparison between English and Urdu morphological process of derivation. To accomplish the objectives, the study was alienated into two portions. In the first, part the links between prefix category and word class were explored whereas part two discovered relation between a particular prefix and origin of root words to which it got attached. The study relied on qualitative method of data collection and analysis. The results revealed very slight links between English negative prefixes and root words' category and etymology. However, reasonable links of Urdu negative prefixes with part of speech and word origin of root words were found by the study. The study endorsed teaching of Urdu (L1) morphology to English (L2) learners for better comprehension of derivations. It also recommended need of a comprehensive quantitative study to further explore and compare morphological patterns of English (L1) and Urdu (L2), the national language of Pakistan.

**Keywords:** derivation, negative prefix, , borrowed/inherited words, English (L1), Urdu (L2)

## I. INTRODUCTION

English is used as First Language (L1) in many countries, as Second Language (L2) in certain countries especially that have remained part of British Empire and in few countries English has the status of a Foreign Language. In Pakistan, English is used as a medium of instruction in education institutions, for official correspondence and for other multiple academic activities. Despite the fact that India and Europe are geographically faraway from each other, the languages spoken in these areas nonetheless share a single ancestor. Many researches have established that Sanskrit, Latin and Greek, all originate from the same language. Today, two out of many branches of the Indo-European language family are: the Indo-Iranian languages (e.g. Sanskrit, Hindi, and Persian) and the Germanic languages (Rowe and Levine 2015). Scholars often divide the Germanic languages into three groups: West Germanic, including English, German, and Dutch. By studying many texts, researchers inferred that there were once a people living to the east of Turkey. This group split into two, with one sub-group setting out east to Asia, and the other heading west towards Europe. These two sub-groups then fragmented into various other groups and, as they settled in different parts of Europe and Asia, their languages evolved separately from each other.

Of course, these language families did not evolve in a vacuum, and there is evidence of inter-language influence. The English language itself is a hodgepodge drawn from a number of languages. For comprehending the evolution of a language, it is often obligatory to delve into history. In the case of English, Old English (or Anglo-Saxon) derived from the languages of the peoples that colonized England: the Old Norse of the Vikings, Old German of the Germanic tribes, Latin during Christianization in the 7th century, and then Norman influence from 1066 AD. When a certain language comes into interaction with another (over a prolonged period), and particularly when a foreign invader endeavors to impose its culture on another, the languages unavoidably effect each other. England was ruled by Norman (Old French) kings for several years, which clarifies why there are so many words of French derivation in the English language. Most of the words borrowed by English from French come from Latin. However, many English words have also been borrowed directly from Latin as the literature and religious scripts in Western Europe were largely written in Latin. The liturgical language of West European Christians and Catholic was also Latin till recent past (Carstairs 2002).

English language has very limited number inflections of noun, verb and adjective whereas Latin, from whom English has borrowed heavily, has an elaborate inflectional morphology. Probably, due to

borrowings from multiple sources, the morphological patterns of English are often unpredictable as every root may take different prefix and suffix while forming new word via derivation and inflection both.

Urdu language developed in the 12th century CE in India, serving as a lingua franca after the Muslim conquest (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2020). While describing methods for investigating developmental patterns in order and sequence of second language teaching Ellis (1994) defines acquisition as first occurrence regularly carrying out an appraisal of scholarships targeting morpheme studies and acquisition of grammatical morphemes and it has been extensively used in first language acquisition research as in Wells & Gordon (1985). The present study aims at investigation and comparison of morphological patterns of converse antonym generation and possible link of such patterns with a particular word categories and etymology of root words of English and Urdu languages.

### **Significance of the Study**

In 1947 Pakistan emerged as a sovereign State on political map of the world after division and liberation of British India. Thereafter, Urdu was adopted as national language of Pakistan and since then English is being used as official language in Pakistan. For the Urdu speaking learners of English, the exploration and comparison of antonym formation patterns is not only likely to be interesting but also helpful from pedagogical perspective. This research has focused on derivational morphology of English and Urdu languages. In bilingual environments, mutual comparison of analogies is likely to contribute to comprehension of English by non-native speakers. It is also likely to be pedagogically helpful for English language teachers. Review of related literature suggests that the previous studies have seldom taken into account the comparative perspective of first language (L1) English and second language (L2). So, this study is distinctive in nature as is likely to contribute positively to the existing literature and scholarship in the field of Linguistics in general and second language (L2) learning in particular.

### **Research Questions**

- 1) What are the patterns of negative prefix addition to root words of different grammatical categories for antonym generation in English and Urdu languages?
- 2) How are the patterns of relationship of negative prefix addition with word origin and grammatical category of root words in English and Urdu languages?

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

According to Katamba and Stonham (2006), morphology and the lexicon link other modules of linguistics such as syntax, semantics and phonology. Therefore, morphology cannot be studied entirely in isolation. According to Yule (2010), word formation processes are: borrowing, calque, acronym, infixing, conversion, compounding, clipping, coinage, derivation and inflection. The free words that are meaningful even if used in isolation are called root words. According to Harris (1951), mechanical procedure for morpheme study was an objective of structural linguists but gradually it was realized that it was not possible to a set of discovery procedures for accurate morphological analysis. The modern English words that come from Old English, Norse and Germanic etc. ; and Urdu words originated from Hindi and Sanskrit etc. will be called inherited words in this paper. Olsen (2001) describes a glaring difference between English and Sanskrit Morphology and compounding.

### ***Operational Definition of 'Inherited Root Words'***

The modern English words that come from Old English, Norse and Germanic etc. ; and Urdu words originated from Hindi and Sanskrit etc. will be called inherited words in this paper

### ***Operational Definition of 'Borrowed Root Words'***

The English words borrowed from Latin via French and other languages and the Urdu words borrowed from Persian and Arabic etc. will be mentioned as 'borrowed root words' in the course of this study.

## ***Negative Prefixes***

Negative declarations are the reverse of affirmative declarations. In English, one way to make negative statements is by adding negative prefixes to nouns, adjectives, and verbs. Some examples of English negative prefixes are: a-, dis-, il-, im-, in-, ir-, non-, un-.

## ***Works Already Done***

Humayoun (2006) described the implementation of Urdu language morphology in Functional Morphology. As quoted in the same study Functional Morphology is a domain embedded language for implementing natural language morphology, developed by Marcus Forsberg and Arne Ranta at Chalmers & Gothenburg University (Forsberg&Ranta 2004). The study carried out detailed analysis of Urdu orthography and transliteration scheme. Ramnathan et al (2009) was conducted to generate case markers and suffixes in English to Hindi translation. However, the study did not include English and Hindi prefixes while comparing the morphological structure of two languages. Bobaljic (2017) contends that morphology sometimes is characterized as the domain of lawless by certain linguistics scholars; however, the author argues that there are certain patterns in the domain of morphology that guide it to status of linguistic universals. Islam (2012) was conducted while aiming at morphology of Urdu words borrowed from Arabic, Persian and English. The study focused on affixation of Arabic and Persian Loan words whereas study of compounding of English loan words was also carried out by the researcher. The research being a comprehensive effort in the morphology area included phonological and semantic aspects of the Urdu language that were closely related to its derivational and inflectional processes. The study found that morphological changes of both the types i.e. derivational and inflectional were prevalent in Urdu language. The inflectional pattern was found to be more closely related to native Urdu style. The process of word formation through derivation was found to be lesser than that of inflection.

Altakhaineh (2014) aimed at clarifying distinction between derivational and inflectional morphology. The sample data were collected from dictionaries, corpuses and lexicons for the purpose of morphological analysis. The languages whose data were considered for analysis were English, Arabic, French, German and Dutch. The study was based on two vital morphological processes; concatenate and non-concatenate morphology. Through qualitative approach, it was found that the boundary between English and Arabic Inflection and derivation was blurred. Najjar (2014) was carried out to examine lexical and morphological repetitions in an Arabic literary text as it was translated to English. The study aimed at investigating originality of translated text and preservation of communication functions of morphological and lexical repetitions in an Arabic novel. The study found that some of the morphological repetitions into English lost their original meanings. Hall (2014) describes in detail the affixes and heads. Moreover, morphology and mind, serialization in morphology and morphologically complex words were discussed in detail by the author. Mangrio (2016) focused on morphological adaptation of loanwords in Urdu. It also explored similarities and differences between recent English loanwords adaptations and old Arabic and Persian words into Urdu language along with native Urdu structures. Ranjan (2016) included ergative morphology in a multi facet study. The study however did not focus much on antonyms and prefixes.

Mladenovic (2014) was based on the assumption that history of English derivational system showed merely a few native prefixes, predominantly negative, had survived due to influx of borrowed ones. Mukherjee (2017) was based on the assumption that the subject of Derivational Morphology in general and Morphological Rivalry in particular had fairly captured the attention of theoretical paradigms dealing with language structure. The study aimed at the investigation of the linguistic features of English negative prefixes, in-, un-, dis- and non- from the viewpoint of phonology. It postulated that phonological features in the English negative prefixes were of significance for the purpose of analyzing other linguistic properties. HAMADA (2017) focused on un-adjectives with positive evaluation and their context as they often appeared together with its synonymous adjectives, typically in the shape of coordination. It propounded that it is not the case that they could appear with any other adjective. It also theorized that some positive un- adjectives like unafraid or unselfish could appear "alone" in significant number of cases. Sarfraz et al (2018) focused on exploration of students' knowledge of using affixes in English writing. The study used quantitative approach in an experimental study design. It was found that morphological awareness was effectively comprehended by the study respondents. Khan (2020) studied the Morphology of Urdu loanwords in Pakistani English variety. It aimed at exploring the morphological integration of Urdu loanwords and the reasons behind this morphological integration process in English, spoken in Pakistan. The study used qualitative research method. The data were collected from newspaper, dictionary and novellas authored by Pakistan writers. The study findings revealed that the

Urdu loanwords were morphologically integrated in Pakistan English while retaining their grammatical category. Shafique, Shahbaz and Ahmad (2019) focused on identifying the potential affixes or morphological productivity of affixes meant for formation of new words in Urdu corpus. The focus of the research is to find the productivity of affixes in Urdu. A corpus based data were accumulated to find the productivity of the affixes i.e. prefixes and suffixes and analysis. The Corpus driven approach is used by the researcher to analyze the affixes present in the corpus.. Urdu-Hindi together is the second most widely spoken language on the globe with over 1,017,290,000 speakers (Native + second language) after Chinese (Rahman, 2004). Qureshi, Hassan and Akhter (2018) found that there were rigid rules of adding affixes in the derivational process of the Urdu language. Mostly, it is not clear which affix should be added. Further, words are being added consistently in the Urdu language. It also endeavored to focus the potential dimensions of derivation in the Urdu language. The study also attempted to motivate the Urdu lexicologists and morphologists to promote exploration of the Urdu language on the level of derivation.

### III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### **Nature of Study**

The research in hand is of descriptive and comparative nature; it has adopted qualitative approach. Reality can be accessed through social constructions, language and meanings the individuals mutually share (Meyers, 2009). Qualitative study is generally based on interpretative based through observation and social constructions (Collins, 2010). The interpretation of reality, according to Blaike (2010), is done by meanings which speakers and listeners yield in routine. To comprehend, ascertain and deduce analogy of antonym formation in English and Urdu languages following inflectional morphology patterns the researchers used qualitative approach.

#### **Theoretical Background**

Jespersen (1917) observed that many un-prefixed adjectives have positive or neutral value. His postulates are further strengthened by Zimmer (1964) elaborations who quotes the adjectives such as unbeaten, unblemished, undeterred, un-blamable, unconquerable as positive ones. This paper is not trying to decide about prescriptive rules of negative prefixes or draw water tight compartments between inflection and derivation. Moreover, semantics and lexicons remain out of focus of this study. Instead of theorizing about, the study endeavors to relate negative prefix patterns of Urdu and English with historical origin of borrowed and inherited lexicon.

#### **Data Collection**

The present research carried out appraisal/comparison of English and Urdu Inflectional Morphology, duly focusing on attachment of different prefixes to the root words. The words were selected from routine English and Urdu speech and writing. Moreover, certain words were also picked from English and Urdu dictionaries.

#### **Sampling**

The sample words for analysis were selected by criteria sampling technique. Only simple and frequently used words were selected for analysis in this study.

#### **Limitations and Delimitations of Study**

This research is delimited to commonly used lexicon of English and Urdu languages. Only the derivation process has been included in the study whereas inflection processes of word formation has been kept out of this study. The derivation process only focuses on negative prefixes while leaving aside the suffixes. In prefixes only those words have been shortlisted for this research that covert the root word to their respective antonyms or the words opposite in meaning. Due to its limited scope the study could not encompass the complete lexicon of English and Urdu by manual or Corpus Linguistics analytical methods.

#### IV. RESULTS

##### English Prefixes

English and Urdu Prefixes will be analyzed separately for the purpose of simplicity of comprehension and ease of comparison. In the sub-section English words' morphology will be analyzed. Urdu language morphemes will be considered for analysis in subsequent sub-section. The English prefixes that have been shortlisted for analysis in this study are nine: *im, mis, dis, de, in, un, ill, ir and A*. The antonym forming by addition of 'im' prefix to noun, adjective, verb and adverb and converts the roots to opposite meaning words. Such root words have been borrowed from Latin via French. There is no single occurrence of combination of 'im' with an inherited English root word. Specimen words are included in the table A below.

**Table A.** 'Im' Prefixes (Latin)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Mature	Immature	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Maturely	Immaturely	Adverb	Middle English, Latin
Measurable	Immeasurable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Mobile	Immobile	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Mobility	Immobility	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Moral	Immoral	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Morality	Immorality	Noun	Middle English, Latin
Partial	Impartial	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Partially	Impartially	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Polite	Impolite	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Politely	Impolitely	Adverb	Middle English, Latin
Possible	Impossible	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Probable	Improbable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Pure	Impure	Adjective	Middle English, French
Proper	/ Improper/Improper	Adjective/ Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Properly	ly		
Movable	Immovable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Perfect/Perfectly	Imperfect/ Imperfectly	Adjective/ Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Mortal	Immortal	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Patience	Impatience	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Parity	Imparity	Noun	Latin
Partiality	Impartiality	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin

The addition of 'mis' prefix is used with the root words borrowed from Latin and Old English inherited words. This prefix adds to nouns, verbs and adjectives to convert them to antonyms.

Table B below indicates that both the inherited and borrowed root words equally accept 'mis' prefix while creating antonyms.

**Table B.** 'mis' Prefixes (Greek)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Conduct	Misconduct	Verb	Middle English , French, Latin
Fortune	Misfortune	Noun	Middle English , French, Latin
Interpret	Misinterpret	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Lead	Mislead	Verb	Old English, Germanic
Use	Misuse	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Understand	Misunderstand	Verb	Old English
Adventure	Misadventure	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Appropriate	Misappropriate, inappropriate	Verb/Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Appropriately	Inappropriately	Adverb	Middle English, Latin
Behave	Misbehave	Verb	Middle English , German
Calculate	Miscalculate	Verb	Middle English, Latin
Chief	Mischief	Adjective	Middle English, French

Trust	Mistrust	Noun/Verb	Middle English, Old Norse
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'Dis' prefix is of Latin origin it adds to noun, verb and adjective of inherited as well as borrowed root words of English to form their antonyms.

**Table C.** 'dis' Prefix (Latin)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Obey	Disobey	Verb	Middle English, French , Latin
Integrate	Disintegrate	Verb	Latin
Inherit	Disinherit	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Loyal	Disloyal	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Loyalty	Disloyalty	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Own	Disown	Verb	Old English
Jointed	Disjointed	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Like	Dislike	Verb	Old English, Germanic
Liking	Disliking	Noun	Old English, Germanic
Qualify	Disqualify	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Oriented	Disoriented	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Loyalty	Disloyalty	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Interesting	Disinteresting	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Appearance	Disappearance	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Agreement	Disagreement	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Honesty	Dishonesty	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin

'De' prefix roughly means to 'undo' and is generally attached before a verb. Therefore, the verb activate, which means to put something to use, and change it to deactivate, which means to take something out of use. Likewise, adding de- to other verbs reverses their original meaning, as in decompose and devalue. Usually, the prefixes 'de' and 're' are used as antonyms of each other while adding to multiple numbers of root words. That long discussion will not form part of this short study.

**Table D.** 'de' Prefixes (Latin)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Stabilize	Destabilize	Verb	Anglo Norman French, Latin
Frost	Defrost	Verb	Germanic
Mystify	Demystify	Verb	French
Limit	Delimit	Noun/ Verb	Middle English, Latin
Merit	Demerit	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Grade	Degrade	Noun/ Verb	French, Latin
Value	Devalue	Noun/Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Compose	Decompose	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Forestation	Deforestation	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Construct	Deconstruct	Verb	Middle English, Latin
Regulate	Deregulate	Verb	Middle English, Latin
Code	Decode	Noun/Verb	Middle English, Latin
Attach	Detach	Verb	Middle English, French, Germanic

The addition of 'in' prefix shows affinity with verbs, nouns and adjectives of borrowed category words. There is not a single instance observed of combination of Latin affix 'in' with an inherited root word. Table below contains the sample words and their origin.

**Table E.** 'in' Prefixes (Latin)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Animate	Inanimate	Verb	Middle English, Latin
Attentive	Inattentive	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Definite	Indefinite	Adjective	Latin
Divisible	Indivisible	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Essential	Inessential	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Essentially	Inessentially	Adverb	Middle English, Latin
Expert	Inexpert	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Justice	Injustice	Noun	Old English, Old French, Latin

Sensible	Insensible	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Stability	Instability	Noun	Middle English, Anglo Norman French, Latin
Sufficient	Insufficient	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Sufficiently	Insufficiently	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Valid	Invalid	Adjective	French, Latin
Accurate	Inaccurate	Adjective	Latin

The use of antonym 'un' is very common in English language. It gets added to inherited and borrowed adjectives, adverbs and verbs. The verbs and adjectives to which this prefix gets attached are in large number. However, very few have been included for analysis below.

**Table F.** 'un' Prefixes (Proto Germanic)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Attended	Unattended	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Authorized	Unauthorized	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Available	Unavailable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Avoidable	Unavoidable	Adjective	French, Latin
Conscious	Unconscious	Adjective	Latin
Consciously	Unconsciously	Adverb	Latin
Foreseen	Unforeseen	Adjective	Old English
Forgivable	Unforgivable	Adjective	Old English, Germanic
Necessary	Unnecessary	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Able	Unable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Armed	Unarmed	Adjective	Old English, Germanic
Kind	Unkind	Adjective	Old English
Kindly	Unkindly	Adverb	Old English
Common	Uncommon	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Commonly	Uncommonly	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Fit	Unfit	Adjective	Middle English
Fortunate	Unfortunate	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Fortunately	Unfortunately	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Controlled	Uncontrolled	Adjective	Middle English, Anglo Norman French, Latin
Pleasant	Unpleasant	Adjectives	Middle English, French, Latin
Lock	Unlock	Verb	Old English, Germanic
Tie	Untie	Verb	Old English, Germanic
Hook	Unhook	Verb	Old English, Germanic, Dutch
Cover	Uncover	Verb	Middle English, Latin, French
Fold	Unfold	Verb	Old English, Germanic, Dutch
Dress	Undress	Verb	Middle English, French, Latin
Hinge	Unhinge	Verb	Middle English
Do	Undo	Verb	Old English, Germanic, Dutch

'ill' and 'well' are often used to convey opposite meanings by attaching themselves with various English root words. However, such pattern is not part of this study. The focus of this study is only on the roots and accept ill prefix and convert it into its antonym. For example 'ill conceived' and 'well-conceived' are not being analyzed in this study. However, there are very few borrowed English words which get attached to this prefix for converting them to their respective antonyms. The part of speech or word category which is involved in this process is noun, adverb and adjective. There are very few such patterns in English language. A few are tabulated below.

**Table G.** 'ill' Prefixes (Latin)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Logical	Illogical	Adjective	Middle English, Latin, Greek
Literate	Illiterate	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Legal	Illegal	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Legitimate	Illegitimate	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Literacy	Illiteracy	Noun	Middle English, Latin
Legality	Illegality	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Legally	Illegally	Adverbs	Middle English, French, Latin

Logically	Illogically	Adverbs	Middle English, Latin , Greek
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The last English prefix under analysis is 'ir'. This prefix like many other prefixes gets added before borrowed English adjectives, nouns and adverbs. The new word formed is opposite in meaning to the root. The root words shown intable below are all borrowed.

**Table H.** 'Ir' Prefixes

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Removable	Irremovable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Rational	Irrational	Adjective	Middle English, Latin
Relevant	Irrelevant	Adjective	Latin
Responsible	Irresponsible	Adjective	French, Latin
Reversible	Irreversible	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Repairable	Irreparable	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin
Reverence	Irreverence	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Resolution	Irresolution	Noun	Middle English, Latin
Regularity	Irregularity	Noun	Middle English, French, Latin
Resolutely	Irresolutely	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Regularly	Irregularly	Adverb	Middle English, French, Latin
Responsibly	Irresponsibly	Adverb	French, Latin

The next English Prefix 'A' is in fact first Latin alphabet. It gets added to many English root words of adjective, adverb and noun category and converts them to their respective antonyms. The table below provides enough evidence that the prefix 'a' is added to Greek origin root words.

**Table I.** Prefixes 'A' (Greek)

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Political	Apolitical	Adjective	Middle English, French, Latin, Greek
Symmetry	Asymmetry	Noun	French, Latin , Greek
Theist	Atheist	Adjective	Middle English, Latin , Greek
Typical	Atypical	Adjective	French, Latin, Greek
Typically	Atypically	Adverb	French, Latin, Greek
Moral	Amoral	Adjective	Middle English, Latin, Greek
Symmetrical	Asymmetrical	Adjective	French, Latin , Greek
Symptomatic	Asymptomatic	Adjective	French, Latin, Greek

There are some English prefix pairs that are themselves antonyms of each other e.g. 'un' and 'en' , 'pre' and 'post'. Such prefixes get added to certain roots and resulting words are antonyms of each other. For example Postpaid and Prepaid are antonyms of each other. However, such prefixes are out of scope of this study. A few such instances are there in Urdu language also and are mentioned in subsequent section.

### Urdu Prefixes

In this section the prefixes of First Language (L1) of Pakistan will be analyzed. Urdu has inherited words from Hindi and Sanskrit languages and borrowed words from Arabic and Persian. There are total five Urdu prefixes that have been analyzed in this study namely 'La', 'Ghair', 'Na', 'Un' and 'A'.

The prefixes 'la' is the near translation of English prefix 'un', 'in', 'im' and English word 'without'. This prefix itself comes to Urdu from Arabic. The data noted in Table J show that this prefix gets added to nouns and adjectives of both the inherited and borrowed languages. It is worth noting that this prefix exclusively adds to the adjectives only.

**Table J:** Arabic Prefix 'La' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix 'Un')

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Hasil( gain)	La Hasil	Adjective	Arabic
Parwah (care)	la Parwah	Adjective	Sanskrit
Tahdad (number)	La Tahdad	Adjective	Arabic
Pata (trace)	La Pata	Adjective	Sanskrit
Chaar (power)	La Chaar	Adjective	Persian
Ilm (knowledge)	La Ilm	Adjective	Arabic
Ilmi (awareness)	Lalilmi	Noun	Arabic



Haal (condition)	La Haal	Noun/Adjective	Arabic
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The next prefix that converts Urdu root words to their antonyms is 'ghair'. It is a typical and commonly used in formal Arabic. In Urdu it is used with any variation from its Arabic form. The prefix 'ghair' is near synonym of English prefixes 'un', 'in' and 'im'. It can easily be observed that the prefix 'ghair' gets added to only one part of speech i.e. adjective.

**Table K:** Arabic Prefix 'Ghair' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un')

Word	Antonyms	Word Category	Word Origin
Abaad (settled)	GhairAbad	Adjective	Persian
Aeini (constitutional)	GhairAeini	Adjective	Persian
Hazir (present)	GhairHazir	Adjective	Arabic
Rasmi( conventional)	GhairRasmi	Adjective	Arabic
Shaffaf( transparent)	GhairShaffaf	Adjective	Arabic
Zaroori(essential)	GhairZaroori	Adjective	Arabic
Marrawaj(customary)	GhairMarrawaj	Adjective	Arabic
Mashroot( conditional)	GhairMashroot	Adjective	Arabic
Mamooli(ordinary)	GhairMamooli	Adjective	Arabic
Mulki(indigenous)	GhairMulki	Adjective	Arabic
Mumkin (possible)	GhairMumkin	Adjective	Arabic
Munasib(suitable)	GhairMunasib	Adjective	Arabic
Musawi( equal)	GhairMusawi	Adjective	Arabic

The next prefix that converts the Urdu root words to their antonyms has itself been borrowed from Persian language in its original form. In present day Persian this prefix is very commonly used with the root words while converting them to the words opposite in meaning or antonyms. However, the prefix 'na' gets added to Urdu nouns and adjectives. Though the majority words to which this prefix is added are its language mates Persian but it is also added to some Arabic root words and very few Sanskrit root words also.

**Table L:** Persian Prefix 'Na' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un')

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Ashna (known)	Na Ashna	Adjective	Persian
Agaah(aware)	Na Agaah	Adjective	Persian
Ahal(capable)	Na Ahal	Adjective	Arabic
Umeed(hope)	Na Umeed	Noun/Adjective	Persian
Baligh (adult)	Na Baligh	Adjective	Arabic
Paak (holy)	Na Paak	Adjective	Persian
Pasand(like)	Na Pasand	Noun/Adjective	Persian
Paid( existing)	Na Paid	Adjective	Persian
Kaam( success)	NaKaam	Noun/Adjective	Sanskrit

The next Urdu prefix 'un' is not only cognate of English prefix 'un' but it also carries nearly same meaning. However, this prefix is added before only the inherited Sanskrit/ Hindi root words. No Urdu word borrowed from Persian and Arabic takes this prefix. It can be observed that prefix 'un' is added to adjectives in general but very rarely to nouns.

**Table M:** Hindi Prefix 'Un' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un')

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Parh (educated)	Un Parh	Noun	Sanskrit
Jaam(know)	UnJaam	Noun/Adjective	Sanskrit
Dekha(seen)	UnDekha	Adjective	Sanskrit
Data (god)	Un Data	Noun	Sanskrit

Gint (accounted)	UnGinat	Adjective	Hindi
Mol (cost)	Un Mol	Adjective	Procrit
Mit (extinct)	Un Mit	Adjective	Sanskrit
Thak( tire)	UnThak	Adjective	Hindi

There is another Urdu prefix 'A' which adds to inherited Urdu adjectives from Sanskrit. But such words are very few in Urdu language. The selected words are tabulated in Table N below

**Table N: Sanskrit Prefix 'A' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un")**

Word	Antonym	Word Category	Word Origin
Toot (break)	A Toot	Adjective	Sanskrit
Choot(touch)	A Choot	Adjective	Sanskrit
Mur(die)	A Mur	Adjective	Sanskrit

The Urdu prefixes 'Ba' (with) and 'bay' (without) are opposite of each other. Both the prefixes get added to some roots words and the resulting word are but such words are out of purview of this study. Moreover, it is worth noting that such processes are both derivational and inflectional. Some examples of such pairs are: *Ba Asar (influential)/ Bay Asar (non-influential)*, *Ba Ikhtiar (authoritative) / Bay Ikhtiar( un authoritative)*, *Ba Ihtbaar( trustable) / Bay Ihtbaar ( trustless )*.

## V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

This paper has targeted the inflectional suffixes of English and Urdu language. These languages are First Language (L1) and Second Language (L2) of Pakistan respectively. The study used the qualitative data analysis approach using observations, English and Urdu dictionaries and commonly used texts for selection of sample words from both the languages. As the present research was qualitative in approach it focused on the concept of langue rather than parole. It tried to identify langue related rules through selected chunks of parole. Lang deals with underlying rules of language whereas parole is the actual performance of a language (Saussure 1913 quoted in Duckworth, 1983). Some explicit patterns of antonym formation have been derived by the researchers while taking into account the etymologies of English and Urdu words. The word origins have been taken from Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary for English words and UrduLughatDictionary for Urdu words. Both the inherited and borrowed types of words have been included in the study for analysis. By analyzing the word roots and derivational patterns of antonym formation the researchers have endeavored to identify regularity/ irregularity of negative suffixes' addition to different types of English and Urdu root words. The researchers approached the study via two research questions. The data were collected while relying on criteria sampling technique. Only the commonly used English and Urdu words were selected for analysis. The first research question focused about the regularity of negative prefix patterns of different word categories of English and Urdu languages. In total nine English negative prefixes were analyzed in this study. It was discovered that 'im', 'mis', 'dis', 'in', 'un', 'il', 'A' and 'ir' prefixes (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un") get attached to almost all parts of speech words such as noun, adjective, verb and adverb whereas 'de' prefix gets added only to verbs. Overall it seems difficult to draw any conclusion about negative prefix combination with any particular word category. There after Urdu prefixes namely 'La', 'Ghair', 'Na', 'Un' and 'A' (Semantically equivalent to English prefix "Un") were analyzed with regards to their affinity with different parts of speech words. It is worth mentioning that Urdu prefix inflections are limited to only nouns and adjectives. There are no derivational processes that add negative prefixes to verbs and adverbs. The analysis revealed that the negative prefixes 'La', 'na' and 'un' could combine with adjectives and nouns. The prefix 'ghair' got added to only adjectives whereas rarely occurring prefix 'A' would only produce antonyms of adjectives. The second research question pertained to the relation of negative prefix type combination with etymology or word origin of different root words of both the languages under study that is English and Urdu. The English prefixes that would combine with both the inherited and borrowed root words are: 'mis', 'dis', 'de' and 'un' whereas the prefixes that combine with only borrowed root words from French and Latin are: 'im', 'in', 'ill' and 'ir'. The English Antonym 'A' exclusively combines with Greek origin root words of adjective category and few nouns. Urdu language has inherited its words from Hindi and Sanskrit whereas borrowing is mainly from Persian and Arabic. Urdu Prefixes that get attached to both the inherited and borrowed root words were found out to be: 'La' and 'Na' however the prefix 'Ghair' combined only with borrowed Arabic and Persian words. The rarely occurring suffixes 'Un' and 'A' only got added to inherited Hindi/ Sanskrit root words. The criteria sampling technique proved expedient for this limited level study. However, validity, reliability and generalizability of such studies is

also shrouded in suspicions. But such studies raise many questions and open avenues for more comprehensive studies in the researched area. Due to non-availability of any comparative study in this area the alignment of its findings is not possible with any previous model research. The complexity of results is likely to be simplified by the tableO below.

**Table O.***Prefix Combination Scheme*

Language	Prefixes combining with multiple word categories	Prefixes Combining with Adjectives	Prefixes Combining with both Inherited and Borrowed Words	Prefixes Combining with Inherited Words	Prefixes Combining with only Borrowed	Remarks
English	'im', 'mis', 'dis', 'in', 'un', 'il', and 'ir'	*'A'	'mis', 'dis', 'de' and 'un'	Nil	'im', 'in', 'ill' 'A' and 'ir'.	*'A' mostly combines with Greek roots
Urdu	'La', 'na' and 'un'	'ghair'	'La' and 'Na'	'Un' and 'A'	*'Ghair'	*'Ghair' combines with Persian and Arabic roots

The study in hand targeted the derivational part of morphology while narrowing itself on those bound prefixes that change the root words into their responding antonyms in English ( L1) and Urdu (L2) in Pakistani settings. The research objectives were investigation and comparison of morphological patterns of antonym formation and probable link of such patterns with a specific word categories and etymology of root words of both the English and Urdu languages. The study had two diverse portions i.e. English (L1) and Urdu (L2) morphological analysis. The researchers used qualitative approach for data collection and analysis. The results discovered some instances of regular patterns of derivation in English language. However, reasonably enough regular patterns of prefix additions were found in Urdu language as regards to parts of speech and word origin of root words. Nonetheless, this research invites many questions for scholarship in the field of morphology. It is recommended that teaching of Urdu (L1) morphology to the English (L2) language learners for better comprehension and investigation of developmental patterns in Morphology be made part of pedagogical strategy in Pakistan and other second language learner countries of English. Order of English language (L1) morphemes described in Clark and Clark (1977) can get facilitated by learning Urdu morphology followed by English. All concerned should consider inclusion of Urdu word structure for making the learners understand English word forms. This study has used a limited qualitative data for exploring the presence of certain linguistic phenomenon in English and Urdu word formation processes. However, a corpus based or computational oriented study carried out by exploiting the benefits of computer can elaborate derivational patterns and contribute to second language (L2) learning in Pakistan. Therefore a study based on quantitative approach is recommended for future researchers.

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