CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Language could not be separated from human beings as they are social creatures who need to interact among themselves. Language is a unique human inheritance that plays an important role in human life such as in thinking, communicating ideas, and negotiating with others (Siahaan cited in Syam 2009: 1). It means that through language people can state or express their own ideas and feelings because language functions as the way of their communication with others. Language has many forms, such as written language (word), spoken language (sound), and body language (gesture). As long we know the meaning of the sound, word or gesture, we know that it is language.

Therefore, there is a science that studies language as the object of study named linguistics. It is scientific knowledge which can be applied to all languages in the world. Linguistics has some branches of studies which include Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics and also some other sciences that are related to linguistics like Sociolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, and Comparative Linguistics.

Generally, human beings study language and words as well, because words could not be separated from language. In this thesis, the writer would like to describe one of the linguistic branches that studies words, that is, morphology. Morphology is the branch of linguistics studying the structure of words (Crystal, 1989:90). Morphology is also called the study of morphemes and their different forms (allomorphs) and the way they combine in word formation.
Morphology is the branch of linguistics, studying how words are structured and how they are put together from smaller parts. Word is formed from morpheme or morphemes. For example, the English word *unfriendly* is formed from *friend*, the adjective-forming suffix *–ly* and the negative prefix *un*.-.

In Morphology, we study word-formation process or the morphological process which forms new words with the rules of morphology. The process of morphology is the process of formation of the word from morphemes. There are several morphological processes such as affixation, reduplication, suppletion, modification, and compounding. Shortly, affixation is the adding of bound morphemes to the base to form a word. The bound morphemes added before the base are called *prefixes*, those inserted into the base are called *infixes*, and those added to the end of the base are called *suffixes*. Reduplication is a process of forming new words either by doubling an entire free morpheme (total reduplication) or part of it (partial reduplication). Suppletion is about irregularity taken one step further. Modification is the one of the processes in forming word as an alternative form. And, compounding is the process of combining two or more free morphemes to form a new word.

The writer chose morphological process as the topic of this thesis because the writer wants to know and being capable to explain the topic in details. This study has focus on describing the process of how a word is formed in English vocabulary especially the ones found in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s novel entitled “The Great Gatsby”. This study is really important especially for people who study in linguistics because there are so many English words in the novel. This novel will be the data source of this analysis. The writer chose the novel as the object for this study because novel is also one of literary works that must be appreciated.
besides the words are quite simple and F. Scott Fitzgerald made a story that shows human values in life and how the main character fight and struggle for his living until he becomes a successful man. This thesis attempts to find out the morphological process used in this interesting novel.

1.2. Problems of the Study

Based on the title above, the writer would like to focus the study on the following problems:

1. What morphological processes are found in the novel “The Great Gatsby”?
2. What is the most dominant morphological process found in the novel “The Great Gatsby”?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to answer the questions or the problems of the study. Therefore, the goals of this thesis are:

1. To find out and describe the morphological processes used in the novel “The Great Gatsby”.
2. To show what is the most dominant morphological process found in the novel “The Great Gatsby”.

1.4. Scope of the Study

This thesis focuses on the analysis of morphological process such as affixation, reduplication, suppletion, modification, and compounding found in the selected chapters namely from chapter 4 until chapter 6 in the novel “The Great
Gatsby” by F. Scott Fitzgerald. The novel as the source of data provides the data to be analyzed. The writer expected being able to reveal the answers of the problems mentioned above.

1.5. Significance of the Study

This thesis would contribute theoretically and practically to the readers and the writer herself. Theoretically, it is expected to enrich the knowledge about morphological process especially for the English Department students. It can also be the guidance and reference for further studies concerning Morphology. Practically, it is expected to be helpful for teaching and training activities regarding the study of morphological process.