1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Writing

The title of this paper is The Analysis of English Prefixes. Dealing with the topic we may understand that it discusses about the ways of how to form new words. So, the study of forming words by joining morphemes is Morphology. Of course Morphology discusses the formations of words. So it means that we cannot escape from the term language.

Language is one of the tools that can be used by human beings to communicate. It is a language of human beings which is non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, feelings and desires by means of a system of sounds and sound symbols.

The theory used to analyze the data is morphology. The term morphology means the study of morphemes of a language and of how they are combined to make words. Whereas morpheme is a smallest meaning full part into which a word can be divided.

The data were taken from written text; therefore the method applied to analyzed the data is from written text. Those language utterances are a part, or a product, of social behavior is a proposition that few linguistics, if any, would challenge, and language-utterances constitute at least one part, and obviously a very important part, of the data that linguists should be concerned with. So regarding the idea of William Labov in the above quotation, I the writer use the utterances of the native speakers of the Karo language as the data for the completion of this analysis.
A language is a human phenomenon, which will differ somewhat even from person to person; it will differ far more from one place to another and from one time to another. These variations in persons, times, and places give rise to such studies as dialectology, linguistic geography. Historical and comparative linguistics; and, collaborating even more with other disciplines, lexicography, the making of dictionaries, orthography, the study of spelling, and paleography, the study of ancient text.

In the last few decades linguistics have developed a rigorous technique for the analysis of languages, in part in reaction against previous methods of study, particularly philology, which was concerned chiefly with the Indo-European languages and based largely on the study of literature, especially of written literature. A basic principle of linguistics is that language is primarily speech; the methods of analyzing speech (such as establishing categories by comparing “minimal pairs”, tow locutions alike in all but one linguistic feature—cat, rat) have become relatively standardized and have been applied to other aspects of language. Perhaps the most difficult aspect of linguistics has been the separating (for the purposes of analysis) of linguistic activities from the current of life in which they appear. The words structure and structural, often applied to linguistic study (sometimes almost with a mystical or magical overtone), emphasize this separation. Structural linguistics isolates the linguistic activity and stresses that despite the variety in a language there is a system or a series of patterns which can be discovered and described by linguistic methods and which alone are the proper subject of linguistics.
1.2 The Problem of Writing

Prefixes are part of affixes. Affixes are bound morphemes. Affixes have prefixes, infixes, confixes, and suffixes. Affixes are part of morphology. English is as the same as other languages. In this writing the writer wants to state his problems deal with the prefixes. The problems are:

1) What prefixes does English have?
2) What are the distributions, forms, functions, and meanings of the prefixes?

1.3 The Scope of Writing

When we discuss the term of affixes, it means that we will talk about the prefixes, confixes, infixes, and suffixes. On this opportunity the writer of this paper wants to write a writing skill to be made as a report to fulfill one of the requirements to get his diploma from the Faculty of Culture Study of the North Sumatera University. So, if the report discuss affixes, the volume will be to vast, therefore he wants to limit his writing just deal with the analysis of prefixes.

1.4 The Purposes of writing

There some purposes in writing this paper, such as to finish his study from English Department of the Diploma Program of the Faculty of Culture Study, to find out the prefixes of English language has, the distribution of the prefixes, the forms, the functions, and the meanings.
1.5 The Method of Research

When someone wants to write a writing or a research he or she can apply variety of methods. The methods can be field research, experiment, or library research. The choice of methods will be dealing with the required data to be collected for analysis. The writer of this paper will apply library research because all the required data will be taken from written text.