



Reduplications in the Tiv Morphology: Classifications and Functions



Review article



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Abstract

The repetition of phonemes, syllables and words is a natural process that has its role in the study of Tiv language. This study focuses on the morphological repetition that is popularly known as *reduplication*. Reduplication is a morphological process in which a *base* or *stem* is copied or repeated. The repeated stems are called the *reduplicants* and these reduplicants are either wholly copied or partially repeated. The ones that are fully reduplicated are referred to as *full reduplications* while the partially reproduced reduplicants are labelled *partial reduplications*. This paper therefore is premised on the following objectives: to classify Tiv reduplications; to differentiate between reduplications and triplications in the Tiv morphology; to compare reduplication and compounding; and to state the functions of reduplications in the Tiv morphology. It adopted Inkelas and Zoll's (2005) The Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT) in this paper. Observation-participation methodology for the elicitation of data. It has been discovered that reduplication has both morphological and phonological features. Reduplications in Tiv have been trichotomised based on the structures, word-classes and functions. Linguists or scholars should read Tiv literatures to discover the beauty of reduplications in the Tiv language.

Keywords: base, compounding, morphology, reduplicant, reduplication, triplication

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Public Interest Statement

The role of reduplication in the study of Tiv language is so significant that it cannot be ignored in a hurry. However, it has not received much attention it deserves in the study of Tiv language. Considering the already existing research gap, this paper classified and stated the functions of the Tiv reduplications. More importantly, reduplications describe sounds of natural and man-made objects, movement, intensification and instability. The scholars are conscientized that reduplications have the potentials of linking sound, movement and intensity with meaning. It is therefore imperative that scholars should make concerted efforts to incorporate reduplicative words in their daily conversations.

Introduction

This paper centres on the classifications and functions of reduplications in Tiv. Etymologically, the name 'Tiv' has tripartite meanings – name of the tribe, name of the language and the ancestral father. According to Dwyer & Yankee (1985), 'Tiv is a member of the Bantoid subgroup of Benue-Congo and is spoken in the eastern part of Nigeria, particularly in Benue State.' Similarly, Blench (2012) classifies Tiv language as a 'Benue-Congo: Bantoid: Southern Bantoid: Tivoid.' The general demographic pattern reveals Tiv people are predominantly found in Benue State; some Tiv people live in Nassarawa, Plateau, Taraba, Adamawa and in the Republic of Cameroon. The Tiv people occupy fourteen local government areas in Benue State which include: Buruku, Gboko, Guma, Gwer-East, Gwer-West, Katsina-Ala, Konshisha, Kwande, Logo, Makurdi, Takar, Ukum, Ushongo and Vandeikya.

Reduplication, the copying or repetition of similar or near-similar words, has paucity of literature in Tiv. Reduplications in Tiv do not receive much attention. From the research, the author discovered that only Maduagwu (2012) investigated the morphological process of reduplication in Tiv language. In her paper, Maduagwu (2012) discussed only adjectival and nominal reduplications. She did not classify Tiv reduplication. Also, she did not discuss the functions of reduplications in Tiv. Considering the wide research gap that exists in the analysis of Tiv reduplications, this paper intends to: classify Tiv reduplications; differentiate between reduplications and triplications in the Tiv morphology; compare reduplication and compounding; and to state the functions of reduplications in the Tiv morphology.

Literature Review

According to McArthur (1992), the word reduplication was coined in sixteenth century (16c) from Latin *reduplicatio/reduplicatio* which is translated as 'doubling or folding.' It is the act or result of doubling a sound, word, or word element, usually for grammatical

or lexical purposes. Booji (2005) simply sees reduplication as 'a special kind of affixation' which involves a 'complete or partial copy of the base as a prefix or a suffix.' This definition presupposes that a *reduplicant* (a copied or repeated segment) that comes before a stem is called a *prefix*; a reduplicant that is inserted in between a stem is labelled *infix* and the one that comes after a base is referred to as a suffix. The author disagrees with Booji who sees reduplication as a special kind of affixation. Affixation basically deals with bound (dependent) morphemes not words whereas reduplication makes judicious use of words and bound morphemes. Furthermore, reduplication is another morphological process of word-formation.

Similarly, Nadarajan (2006) observes that reduplication is a word formation process in which some part of a base (a segment, syllable, morpheme) is repeated, either to the left, or to the right of the word or, occasionally, within the middle of the word. This definition is an allusion to Booji's 'special kind of affixation': prefixation (left), suffixation (right) and infixation (within the middle of the word). Bussmann (1998) defines reduplication as the doubling of initial syllables of a root or stem with or without a change in sound to express a morphosyntactic category. Bussmann's definition captures the repetition or copying of a syllable or word that is similar or dissimilar to the stem. Bussmann indirectly points out *partial* (change in spelling and sound) and *full* (same spelling and sound) reduplications. Akmajian, Demers, Farmer and Harnish (2001), Haspelmath (2002), Crystal (2008), Lieber (2009), Brinton and Brinton (2010), Richards and Schmid (2010), Haspelmath and Sims (2010) and Fromkin, Rodman & Hyams (2014) refer to reduplication as a morphological process in which all or part of the base is repeated or copied (fully or partially).

The above writers looked at reduplication as a morphological process where a reduplicant is completely or partially copied or repeated. Reduplicants have three positions: *prefixal* (initial), *infixal* (internal) and *suffixal* (final). Those reduplicants that are wholly or partially copied may serve as *emphasizers*, *plural markers*, *tense markers*, *descriptors*, *onomatopoeias* or *ideophones* and so on. From the above examples, reduplication is both a morphological and a phonological process. Alternative names for reduplication are cloning, doubling, duplication and repetition.

The available literatures show that there are many types or kinds of reduplications. The major types of reduplication are *full* and *partial*. *Full reduplication* entails the exact copying or repetition of a word or sound. Tiv language has multitudinous examples of full or complete reduplication. These are *kumbul kumbul* (very old), *gudu gudu* (galloping of many animals), *bele bele* (very wide) and *vughô* (completely destroyed).

The *partial reduplication* involves copying or repeating of only a part of a word.

Rhyming reduplication and ablaut reduplication are sub-categories of partial reduplications. *Rhyming reduplication* involves partial reduplicants that are capable of having terminal or end rhyming. This is a special kind of partial reduplication. The following examples exist in English: *boogie-woogie, itsy-bitsy, chick-flick, teeny-weeny, fender-bender, lovey-dovey, hanky-panky, fuddy-duddy, hoity-toity, hodge-podge, harum-scarum, walkie-talkie, higgledy-piggledy, jiggery-pockery, mumbo-jumbo, razzle-dazzle, hocus-pocus, holus-bolus, hockey-pokey, hugger-mugger*.

Ablaut reduplication implies changing vowels of words that nearly rhyme. Altering vowels to produce near-rhyming outcomes results in such reduplicative forms as: *chitchat, zigzag, ding-dong, jibber-jabber, hip-hop, splish-splash, tick-tock, criss-cross, pitter-patter, dilly-dally, ding-dong, shilly-shally, tiptop, mishmash, chit-chat, flip-flop, ping-pong*.

Reduplication in baby-talk simply refers to the words babies acquire in any given language. As infants begin to develop speech, reduplication is an important feature of their phonologies. As infants discover the ability to speak, they typically develop words such as *mama, dada, papa, boo-boo, poo-poo, bye-bye*.

Some authors or critics classified reduplications into phonological and morphological types. Phonological reduplication involves the reduplication of phonemes (vowels and consonants) and the reduplication of prosodic units (syllables and moras). Katamba (1989) observes that the most significant property of reduplicatives (words formed by reduplication) is that word-formation is driven by phonological factors. Morphological reduplication deals with the doubling of linguistic constituents (words, stems, roots). Reduplication is a convergence between phonology and morphology. Katamba (1989) states that there are two main types of reduplicatives: rhyme motivated compounds and ablaut motivated compounds.

Quirk & Greenbaum (1973) opine that common uses of reduplicatives are: (a) to imitate sounds (b) to suggest alternating movements, (c) to disparage by suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation and (d) to intensify. Reduplication typically yields aspectual meanings such as continuative, frequentative, habitual, imperfective, intransitive, iterative, or progressive (Moravcsik, 1978). McArthur (1992) states that a mix of grammatical and lexical reduplication occurs in various languages: for instance, pluralizing in Malay *contoh* which means 'example' but when reduplicated *contoh-contoh*; it implies 'examples', *raja* king, *raja-raja* 'kings.' Bussmann (1998) confirms that in word formation, repetition of morphemes indicates a strengthening of the expression.

Rubino (2005) argued that reduplicative morphemes could carry many meanings, and in some languages, the same reduplicative morpheme is used to denote quite contrary meanings. Reduplication in nouns can be used to form limitations and new

words. Reduplicative verbs and adjectives can express various functions, that is, intensity, conditionality, plurality, reciprocity, transitivity, argument, tense and aspect. Brinton & Brinton (2010) state that reduplication has many different functions: it can express disparagement (*nambypamby*), intensification (*super-duper*), diminution (*teeny-weeny*), onomatopoeia (*ticktock*), or alternation (*ping-pong*), among other uses.

Orkar (2013) stated that expressions with repetition of words are found in Tiv language for emphasis. Orkar cites the following examples: *bunde a bunde*, *civir a civir*, *yem a yem*, *zamber a zamber*, *zua a zua*. Orkar (2013) averred that verbs, adverbs and adjectives which are repeated for emphasis are written separately, or sometimes hyphenated to indicate the degree of goodness or perfection or boldness, the word is repeated twice or thrice. Orkar cited the following verbal examples as: *bume bume* (fool fool), *ember ember* (rejoice rejoice), *hunde hunde* (madden madden), *kighir kighir* (force force), *kimbir kimbir* (repeat repeat). These examples are used as adverb: *baver baver* (badly punctured), *bekee bekee* (to walk stealthily), *tegh tegh* (slowly, gradually), *tenge tenge* (desperately). Lastly, Orkar listed adjectival reduplications such as: *dyange dyange* (starchy), *dyelegh dyelegh* (naked), *gande gande* (watery), *gbilin gbilin* (free free), *hange hange* (compulsory), *kwer kwer* (yellow yellow), *mnyim mnyim* (full of smoke), *nyian nyian* (reddish) and *pupuu pupuu* (whitish).

Lalith (2019) dwelled on the functions associated with reduplication are diverse. They range from total meaning change, word formation, marking of number (plurality, collectivity), marking of tense, aspect, attenuation, intensity, transitivity, conditionality, reciprocity, derivation of temporal adverbials. Reduplication may be used to denote a number of things such as number (plurality, distribution, collectivity), distribution of an argument; tense; aspect (continued or repeated occurrence; completion; inchoativity), attenuation, intensity, transitivity (valence, object defocusing), conditionality, reciprocity and pretence.

Kentner (2017) discusses reduplication as a technique of word formation in German. Al-Asbahi (2020) describes and compares the semantics of reduplication in English and Arabic. The paper shows more semantic similarities in reduplication than differences between both languages; although, Arabic reduplication is noted to be semantically more productive than English reduplication. Both languages divide reduplication into full/partial, free/bound, and continuous/discontinuous. Jin and Fang (2019) compared reduplicates in English and Chinese from aspects of morphological structure, semantic properties and pragmatic functions. Alsamadani & Taibah (2019) studied the morphosemantic aspects of reduplication in Palembang. In Palembang, both content and function words undergo reduplication, generating a wide variety of semantic functions, such as pluralization, iteration, distribution and nominalization.

The Morphological Doubling Theory (MDT)

Inkelas and Zoll (2005) view reduplication as a purely morphological construction whose 'daughters' are constrained to be morphosemantically identical. The two daughters are both generated by the morphology, embodying semantic and phonological information. The daughters are each subject to individual phonological changes. But additionally, they are linked by a shared 'cophonology', that is, the phonological shapes of the daughters are concatenated and these are again subject to a third 'cophonology' at the mother node that produces the surface form. The key assumption of MDT is that the two units are treated as independent from each other, that is, the reduplicant is not generated from the base. The daughters are primarily semantically identical. A phonological identity is secondarily created by the 'cophonology'. In partial reduplication one daughter is assumed to be phonologically truncated.

Mother (meaning = some function of the meaning of the daughters;
phonology = some function of the phonology of the daughters)

| Daughter #1 | Daughter #2 |
|---|---|
| (meaning = that of Daughter Daughter #2; may be subject to special special to phonology) | (meaning = that of #1; may be subject to phonology) |

Figure 1: Inkelas and Zoll's basic schema of the Morphological Doubling Theory

The attractiveness of this model definitely lies in its focus on morphology. MDT treats reduplication as what it definitely is, that is, a morphological procedure. The theory has no need to explain phonological deviations of the two reduplicative constituents, because they do constitute two basically independent morphological units.

Methodology

The instrument used in this study is observation method. This method implies the collection of information by way of investigator's own observation, without interviewing the respondents. The information obtained related to what is currently happening and is

not complicated by either the past behaviour or future intentions or attitudes of respondents. The researcher collected the data and discussed them under classification of reduplications (structures, word-classes and functions), reduplications and triplications in Tiv morphology; reduplication and compounding in Tiv morphology; functions of reduplications in Tiv (suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation function). Data were selected using deliberate sampling. Deliberate sampling is also known as purposive or non-probability sampling. This sampling method involves purposive or deliberate selection of particular units of the universe for constituting a sample which represents the universe.

Findings and Discussions

This section primarily discussed the nature of the reduplications in the morphology of Tiv language. In this paper, the discussions have been done under the following headings: classification of reduplications (structures, word-classes and functions), reduplications and triplications in Tiv morphology; reduplication and compounding in Tiv morphology; functions of reduplications in Tiv (suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation functions).

Classification of Reduplications in Tiv Morphology

The classifications of reduplications in Tiv morphology may slightly or greatly differ from other languages. This paper trichotomises reduplications into their structures, word-classes and functions. We have full and partial reduplications under structural classification; word-class has adjectival, adverbial, nominal and verbal classifications and functional classical is based on onomatopoeias or ideophones and numerals.

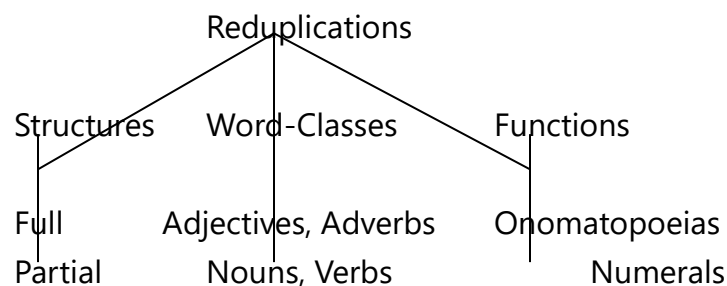


Figure 2: Classifications of Tiv Reduplications

Structural Classification of Reduplications

In this classification, the author looks at the structure or arrangement of syllables or words that are repeated or copied. The exact reproduction of syllables or words is what

is called *full* or *complete reduplications* whereas when the copied syllables or words are dissimilar they are labelled partial reduplications.

Full Reduplication

Generally, Tiv language has more full reduplication than partial ones. In a full or complete reduplication, the stem and the reduplicants are the same. There is no alteration in the spellings of the attached segment or word. These reduplications are found in nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs. All the reduplicants are full words, not syllables. They are: *abeen abeen* (black spots), *abur abur* (accidentally), *acan acan* (spotted), *adondo adondo* (one after another), *agbende agbende* (muscular/full of shells), *aille aille* (in sheaves), *ajime ajime* (backward), *akum akum* (in groups), *akuma akuma* (just measure/moderate), *amian amian* (spotted), *anger anger* (speckled/sickly), *anyom anyom* (yearly), *asav asav* (selective), *ashighe ashighe* (from time to time), *gbing gbing* (large or sufficient amount) and *keng keng* (very necessary). The above reduplications served as qualifiers and intensifiers.

Furthermore, there is a special kind of reduplication that the author terms *pseudo-reduplications* or *non-functional reduplications*. This type of full reduplication is not attention-grabbing hence it does not show plurality, emphasis, onomatopoeicity and movement. It lacks a canonical structure of full reduplication. This type of full reduplication only repeats syllables, not words. Their spellings are compacted – not hyphenated or separated. Below are the examples of non-functional full reduplications: *ataratar* (six), *baba* (wide/ father), *didi* (always), *dondon* (follow), *gbargbar* (swallow), *gbogbo* (big), *gumgum* (leviathan), *jighjigh* (faith), *keke* (always), *koko* (old), *korkor* (weak), *kôôkôô* (unripe/not done), *kpekpe* (wall), *kukuku* (done in secret), *mama* (mother), *parpar* (light/not heavy), *pepe* (morning) and *piapia* (not thick).

Partial Reduplication

This type of reduplication has different stems and reduplicants. Sometimes the first segment is different from the rest as in *bughupupu* (roaring of sea waves), *corododo* (dripping of liquid) and *purututu* (all). In the above three examples, the stems: *bughu-*, *coro-* and *puru* – differ from their reduplicants: *pupu*, *dodo* and *tutu*, respectively. It is clear that only the *last two syllables* of the above three words are copied. In some cases, the medial segment differs from the first and the second. This sub-group has three segments: first and second are similar but the medial word is dissimilar. These uneven triplications are – *daase de daase* (to sway), *fele fe fele* (quickly), *gbugh gbu gbugh* (stirred), *gbeem gbe gbeem* or *gbeen gbe gbeen*, *gbuno gbe gbuno* (crooked), *tsogh tso tsogh* (hasty/hurried), *gen ge gen* (restless), *nngaa nge nngaa* (a kind of movement) and *zemba ze zemba* (to stagger).

Classification of Reduplications based on Word-Class

This classification is based on the word-class or part of speech that such reduplications belong to. This sub-categorisation looks at the adverbs, adjectives, nouns and verbs. Examples are presented in four tables to illustrate their formations.

Table 1: Adjectival Classification of Reduplications

| Stems | Reduplicants | Reduplications | Glosses | Meanings |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| asôndo | <i>asôndo</i> | <i>asôndo asôndo</i> | lumps lumps | full of lumps |
| bele | <i>bele</i> | <i>bele bele</i> | wide wide | very wide |
| bôdo | <i>bôdo</i> | <i>bôdo bôdo</i> | soft soft | very soft |
| dindim | <i>dindim</i> | <i>dindim dindim</i> | fat fat | extremely fat |
| dyelegh | <i>dyelegh</i> | <i>dyelegh dyelegh</i> | naked naked | stark naked |
| hange | <i>hange</i> | <i>hange hange</i> | necessary necessary | very important |
| hegh | <i>hegh</i> | <i>high hegh</i> | new new | very new |
| ikyua | <i>ikyua</i> | <i>ikyua ikyua</i> | near near | very near |
| segh | <i>segh</i> | <i>segh segh</i> | snowy snowy | extremely white |
| tsav | <i>tsav</i> | <i>tsav tsav</i> | witchcraft witchcraft | full of witchcraft |
| tsuku | <i>tsuku</i> | <i>tsuku tsuku</i> | dirty dirty | very dirty |
| vingil | <i>vingil</i> | <i>vingil vingil</i> | round round | roundish |
| wanger | <i>wanger</i> | <i>wanger wanger</i> | clear clear | very clear |

Table 2: Adverbial Classification of Reduplications

| Stems | Reduplicants | Reduplications | Glosses | Meanings |
|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| adondo | <i>adondo</i> | <i>adondo adondo</i> | orderly orderly | in order |
| agber | <i>agber</i> | <i>agber agber</i> | pot-holes pot-holes | full of pot-holes |
| akôndo | <i>akôndo</i> | <i>akôndo akôndo</i> | upward upward | upwardly |
| ayange | <i>ayange</i> | <i>ayange ayange</i> | days days | daily/non-stop |
| biishi | <i>biishi</i> | <i>biishi biishi</i> | tightly tightly | very tight |
| caver | <i>caver</i> | <i>caver caver</i> | bad bad | badly |

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| cinge | <i>cinge</i> | <i>cinge cinge</i> | patch patch | full of patches |
| cwelegh | <i>cwelegh</i> | <i>cwelegh cwelegh</i> | little little | infinitesimally small |
| cinger | <i>cinger</i> | <i>daang daang</i> | bad bad | extremely bad |
| faa | <i>faa</i> | <i>faa faa</i> | early early | very early |
| fugh | <i>fugh</i> | <i>fugh fugh</i> | moving sound | to move fast |
| gudu | <i>gudu</i> | <i>gudu gudu</i> | moving sound | to move in group |
| keng | <i>keng</i> | <i>keng keng</i> | necessary necessary | very important |
| kimbir | <i>kimbir</i> | <i>kimbir kimbir</i> | repeat repeat | repeatedly |
| kpene | <i>kpene</i> | <i>kpene kpene</i> | tight tight | tightly |
| kpene | <i>kpene</i> | <i>kposo kposo</i> | different different | differently |
| mimi | <i>mimi</i> | <i>mimi mimi</i> | truly truly | very true |
| ndor | <i>ndor</i> | <i>ndor ndor</i> | recent recent | recently |
| tseer | <i>tseer</i> | <i>tseer tseer</i> | conspicuous conspicuous | conspicuously |
| vighe | <i>vighe</i> | <i>vighe vighe</i> | vivid vivid | vividly |

Table 3: Nominal Classification of Reduplications

| Stems | Reduplicants | Reduplications | Glosses | Meanings |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| atihi | <i>atihi</i> | <i>atihi atihi</i> | heaps heaps | in heaps |
| atôôn | <i>atôôn</i> | <i>atôôn atôôn</i> | halves halves | in halves/ pieces |
| avuu | <i>avuu</i> | <i>avuu avuu</i> | scales scales | full of scales/scary |
| avur | <i>avur</i> | <i>avur avur</i> | shreds shred | in shreds |
| azoghol | <i>azoghol</i> | <i>azoghol azoghol</i> | bloated skin boated skin | a swollen raw flesh |
| ukpo | <i>ukpo</i> | <i>ukpo ukpo</i> | rooms rooms | rooms/apartments |
| yôgh | <i>yôgh</i> | <i>yôgh yôgh</i> | iron iron | full of iron |

Table 4: Verbal Classification of Reduplications

| Stems | Reduplicants | Reduplications | Glosses | Meanings |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| ngor | <i>ngor</i> | <i>ngor ngor</i> | shout shout | to shout repeatedly |
| pagher | <i>pagher</i> | <i>pagher pagher</i> | boiling boiling | to boil very well |
| tsa | <i>tsa</i> | <i>tsa tsa</i> | space space | to space widely |

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| tugh | <i>tugh</i> | <i>tugh tugh</i> | push push | to push continually |
| voogh | <i>vough</i> | <i>voogh voogh</i> | right right | very right or correct |
| zende | <i>zende</i> | <i>zende zende</i> | travel travel | always travelling |
| zever | <i>zever</i> | <i>zever zever</i> | persist persist | to do sth persistently |
| zungul | <i>zungul</i> | <i>zungul zungul</i> | suspend suspend | well suspended |

Functional Classification of Reduplications

This classification hinges on the functions that reduplications perform. Functional classification of reduplication is dichotomised into onomatopoeic/ideophonic reduplication and numeral reduplication. These types are captured below:

Onomatopoeic/Ideophonic Reduplications Onomatopoeic or ideophonic reduplications reduplicate, repeat or copy the sounds of animals and nature. Onomatopoeia has been a language universal since man developed the inherent ability for language. This classification appears to be absent from most literatures. Some examples of reduplications that imitate natural and man-made sounds are presented in table five below:

Table 5: Examples of natural and man-made onomatopoeic reduplications in Tiv

| Stems | Reduplicants | Reduplications | Meanings |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| ding | <i>ding</i> | <i>ding ding</i> | loud jubilation |
| gbang | <i>gbang</i> | <i>gbang gbang</i> | sound of corrugated iron sheet |
| genger | <i>genger</i> | <i>genger genger</i> | loud voice |
| jagang | <i>jagang</i> | <i>jagang jagang</i> | continual jingling |
| kpan | <i>kpan</i> | <i>kpan kpan</i> | tapping/knocking |
| ngugh | <i>ngugh</i> | <i>ngugh ngugh</i> | repeated trampling |

The above reduplications are called so because of their nature of formation. The above sounds echo their meanings. The repetition of the reduplicants further intensifies their meanings. The sound-meaning nexus causes non-arbitrariness among the above words.

Numeral reduplications

Numeral reduplications are copied or repeated for distributive purposes or meanings. The examples of numeral reduplications are *môm môm* (one by one), *uhar uhar* (in pairs), *utar utar* (in threes), *unyiin unyiin* (in fours), *utaan utaan* (in fives), *pue pue* (in ten groups), *kyundu kyundu* (twenties), *deri deri* (in hundreds), *dubu dubu* (in thousands).

Table 6: Numeral reduplications in Tiv

| Cardinal Number | Reduplications | Glosses | Meanings |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| <i>môm</i> | <i>môm môm</i> | one one | one by one/ only one |
| <i>uhar</i> | <i>uhar uhar</i> | two two | in pairs |
| <i>utar</i> | <i>utar utar</i> | three three | in threes/trio |
| <i>unyiin</i> | <i>unyiin unyiin</i> | four four | in fours |
| <i>utaan</i> | <i>utaan utaan</i> | five five | in fives |
| <i>pue</i> | <i>pue pue</i> | ten ten | in tens |
| <i>kyundu</i> | <i>kyundu kyundu</i> | twenty twenty | in twenties |
| <i>deri</i> | <i>deri deri</i> | hundred hundred | in hundreds |
| <i>dubu</i> | <i>dubu dubu</i> | million million | in millions |

The most widely accepted classification of reduplication is based on the structure. Here we have verbatim copying of the stem which is called full reduplication and partially reduplication of the stem which is referred to as partial reduplication. The second classification centres on the parts of speech which are also called word-forms. Here, the author discussed adjectival, adverbial, nominal and verbal reduplication. The most obscured classification dwelled on the functions of reduplication. The next sub-heading is the contrast between reduplications and triplications in Tiv morphology.

Reduplications and Triplications in Tiv Morphology

Phonologically, reduplication is described as reduplicated *segments* (sequences of consonants/vowels) or reduplicated *prosodic units* (syllables or moras). In addition to phonological description, reduplication is also described morphologically as the reduplication of linguistic constituents (words, stems, roots). Thus, reduplication is interesting theoretically because it involves the interface between phonology and morphology. In reduplication, the *base* is a word (or part of the word) that is often copied. The reduplicated element is called the *reduplicant*. These are examples of reduplications: *nungwa nungwa* (mixed), *nyian nyian* (reddish), *pepe pepe* (early in the morning), *pupuu pupuu* (whitish), *saa saa* (happiness) and *sambe sambe* (to make smooth).

Conversely, triplication refers to a triple use of a morpheme and is more pronounced in Tiv language. In triplication, there is a double copying of the base. As a result of double copying, we have two reduplicants. Triplications can be full and partial. Full triplications repeat same stem as in: *bume bume bume* (extremely foolish), *doo doo doo* (very good), *kerá kera kera* (restlessness), *kpa kpa kpa* (activeness or fastness), *ku ku ku* (clandestine or done in a secret), *kumbur kumbur kumbur* (to disturb extremely), *tsa tsa tsa* (widely spaced), *vihi vihi vihi* (extremely bad or destroyed), *yav yav yav* (overslept) and *zezeze* (staggered movement).

Reduplication and Compounding in Tiv Morphology

Reduplication copies or repeats same syllables or words (full reduplications) or near-similar syllables or words (partial reduplications). It is a special compound word with similar or near-similar structure. It is because of the semblance that reduplication and compounds have that Aarts, Chalker & Weiner (2014:353) define reduplication as a compound word having two identical or very similar parts, often rhyming. According to them, reduplication is also known as *iterative*.

Compounding is the process of forming compound words by joining at least two independent bases together. Fasold and Connor-Linton (2006:77) define compounding is the concatenation of two (or more) lexemes to form a single new lexeme. A compound word is made up of two words that come together to make one new word. Compounds are into noun, adjective and verb compounds. Generally, compounds do have similar parts that rhyme but reduplication does. Examples of compounds are analysed on the tree diagrams below:

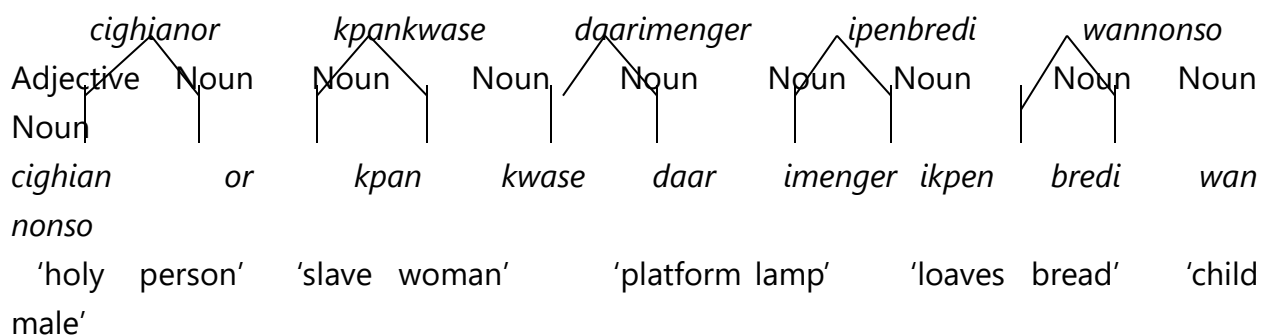


Figure 3: Analysis of Compound Words in Tiv

Figure 3 illustrated the structure of compounding in Tiv. In the diagram above *cighianor* means 'holy person'; *kpankwase* refers to 'a slave woman'; *daarimenger* is called 'a lamp stand'; *ipenbredi* refer to loaves of bread and *wannonso* means a male child. The

aforementioned words vividly showed that the structure of reduplication and compounding is not the same. For instance, if *cighian* (holy), *kpan* (slave), *ikpen* (loaves), *wan* (child) are repeated as *cighian cighian* (holy holy), *kpan kpan* (slave slave) and *ikpen ikpen* (loaves loaves), then we have reduplications. This is shown in the schematic diagrams below:

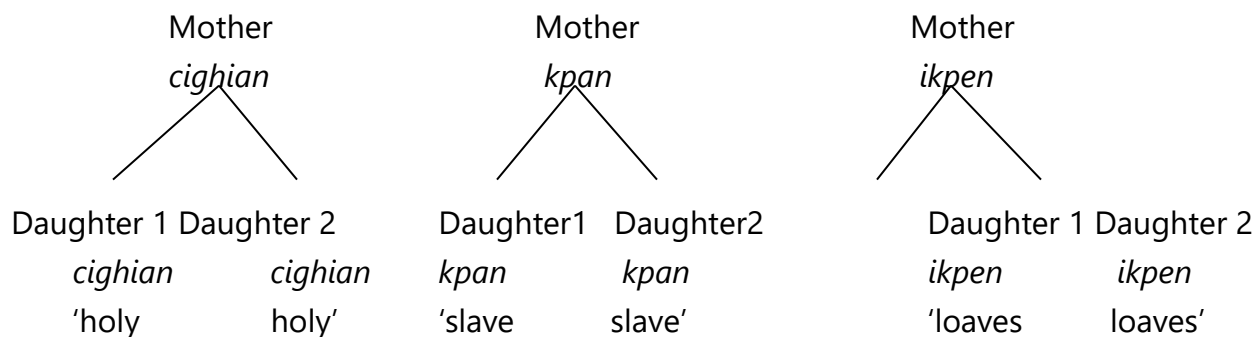


Figure 4: Morphological Doubling of *Cighian* (holy), *Kpan* (slave) and *Ikpen* (Loaves)

In figure 4, *cighian*, *kpan* and *ikpen* belong to the Mother (main word) and mother has two nodes which are called Daughters. The first daughter is the *stem* or *root* while the second daughter is called the *reduplicant*. Both daughters show intensity or emphasis. Reduplications and compounds form new words by adding other words. Reduplication and compounding are major processes of word-formation in Tiv. Both are syntactically classed into word-forms such as adjectival, adverbial, nominal and verbal reduplications and compounds respectively. However, reduplications and compounds differ as seen in the table below:

Table 7: Dissimilarities between Reduplications and Compounds

| Reduplications | Compounds |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Similar syllables or words are copied | Dissimilar words are amalgamated |
| They show emphasis, onomatopoeicity, movement, instability, etc. | Formation of new words only. |
| Most reduplications rhyme | No rhyming is involved |
| Stems can be prefixed, infix and suffixed | Compounds can only be suffixed. |

Functions of Reduplications in Tiv

Reduplication serves a wide variety of functions cross-linguistically and within individual languages. These functions range over the standard morphological functions of derivation and inflection. Reduplication can also perform phonological functions. This paper classifies reduplicative functions into four major groups, namely: onomatopoeias or ideophones, movements, intensifications and suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation.

Onomatopoeic Function of Tiv Reduplications

Onomatopoeia deals with words that mimic or echo their sounds. Katamba (1994) observes that 'there are onomatopoeic words in which a direct association is made between the sounds of a word-form and the meaning that it represents.' Katamba further maintains that 'in cases of onomatopoeia, the sounds symbolise or reflect some aspect of the meaning of the word that they represent. Katamba (1994) emphasises that 'in the case of onomatopoeic words, the relationship between sound and meaning is to some extent *iconic*.' Most reduplicative words perform onomatopoeic function by naming the object by their sounds or noises as in: *gbanggbang* 'the sound made by corrugated iron sheet,' *gberkôôkôô* 'the sound that a bird called wood-pecker makes,' *hu-huu hu-huu* 'Abyssinian owl,' *kung kung* 'tambourine,' *kyarr-kyarr-kyarr* 'winged night-jar,' *gbyaegh gbyaegh* 'thundering,' *gbeleng gbeleng* 'sound of a bell,' *ôô-ôô* 'stork,' *shoko shoko* 'rattle,' *tughtugh* 'a sound made by *tughtugh* (a bird)' and *vuku-vuku-vuku* 'pearl spotted owl'. The sounds made by running water: *bughupupu*, *emememe*, *iubububu* and *iuuu* are highly onomatopoeic. Other reduplicative onomatopoeias are *fegh fegh* 'laborious breathing/ panting,' *jan jan* 'loud noise' and *ngigh ngigh* 'to tremble or shake.

Movement Function of Tiv Reduplications

There are legion of reduplications in Tiv that describe the movement of human beings, animals, objects and actions. Reduplications describing unsteady movements are: *daase de daase* 'to sway,' *gondo gondo*, *gôndo gôndo*, *hulugh hulugh*, *tenge tenge*, *yeke yeke*, *zemba ze zemba*, *ziezie*, *zômon zômon*, *zungul zungul* and *zuzu*. The following reduplications describe quick movements or actions – *fefa fefa*, *fele fele*, *fese fese*, *kya kya kya* and *nngaa nngaa*. These groups of words delimit slow movements or actions such as: *teghlee teghlee*, *tegh tegh* and *zooloo zooloo*.

Intensification Function of Tiv Reduplications

It is unarguably clear that a lot of reduplications are used for intensity. Quirk and Greenbaum (1973) trichotomised intensifiers into emphasizees, amplifiers and

downtoners. According to them, intensifiers 'are not limited to indicating an increase in intensity' but 'they indicate a point on the intensity scale which may be high or low'. Emphasizers have a general heightening effect; amplifiers scale upwards from an assumed norm; downtoners have a lowering effect, usually scaling downwards from an assumed norm (Greenbaum, 1973).

Examples of intensifying reduplications in Tiv are: *bem bem* 'peacefully,' *baver baver* 'very hot,' *cusa cusa* 'roughly,' *eleghe eleghe* 'emphatic refusal,' *enger enger* 'loosely' or 'expressively,' *gbaam gbaam*, *gbang gbang*, *gbong gbong* 'to express strongly or vehemently or stoutly,' *gbida gbida* 'completely exhausted,' *gbulugh gbulugh* 'completely or totally,' *gera gera* 'extremely hot sun.' Other examples of intensifying reduplications are *gôgô gôgô* 'extremely long,' *kpen kpen*, *kpe kpe* 'thoroughly,' *kpiligh kpiligh* 'thorough investigation,' *kpoo kpoo*, *tsegh tsegh* 'completely dried,' *kpôô kpôô* 'emphasizing the very thing,' *kpum kpum* 'completely died,' *kumbul kumbul* 'very old,' *pera-pera*, *pera pe pera* 'done haphazardly,' *taver taver* 'difficult or loudly,' *ttaa-ttaa* 'vividly or seriously,' *tsan tsan* 'quickly,' *tsung tsung* 'craving/strong desire,' *ukpo ukpo* 'rooms,' *vughô vughô* 'completely destroyed' and *vighe vighe* and *wanger wanger* vividly or clearly.

Suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation function

Lastly, Tiv grammar has other reduplications that express some actions that are disorderly, nonsensical, insincere and vacillated. Examples are *dang dang* 'badly behaved,' *de de de* 'absolute stopping,' *njighe njighe* 'scattered/destroyed,' *paregha paregha* 'disorderly, restless' and *nzughul nzughul* 'great panic,' *va va va* 'to order somebody to come,' *yem yem yem* 'to order somebody to go.'

Conclusion and Recommendations

Sapir (1921) observed that nothing is more natural than the prevalence of reduplication, the repetition of the base of a word in part or in its entirety. Therefore, reduplication is a natural and major process of word-formation in Tiv. Reduplication has both morphological and phonological features. Reduplications in Tiv have been trichotomised based on the structures (partial and full), word-classes (adjectives, adverbs, nouns and verbs) and functions (onomatopoeias and numerals). Tiv language is laced with cornucopious instance of full reduplications than partial reduplications. It has been observed the adjectives, nouns and verbs can be copied or repeated to have adjectival, nominal and verbal reduplications. Adverbs, adjectives, nouns are reduplicated to have adverbial reduplications. Tiv has both reduplications and triplications in her morphology. Tiv reduplications perform four main functions: onomatopoeic, movement, intensification and suggesting instability, nonsense, insincerity, vacillation functions.

Readers, scholars or writers of Tiv language should note that any copied such a word must perform one of the following functions – onomatopoeia, intensification, movement or suggesting of nonsensical or confused state. Scholars, curriculum designers, lecturers should classify Tiv reduplications as a major process. Linguists or scholars who studied or learned Tiv as a First Language or Second Language should read Tiv literatures such as *Icighan Bibilo (Tiv Holy Bible)*, *Adam Wade Kohol Ga (Adam Wade Didn't Meet)* and other serious works to discover the beauty of reduplications in Tiv language. The scholars are conscientized that reduplications have the potentials of linking sound, movement and intensity with meaning.

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