

**Research article**

# The Use of the Word "Get" In English

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**Abstract.**

This paper discussed variations of the use of the word "get" in the novels *A Building on Life Broken Piece* by Dandie, *A Counterintuitive Approach to Living a Good Life* by Mason and *The Big Bad Wolf* by Patterson. The analysis was done according to the theories applied. The main theory used in this paper was the theory of Quirk in the book entitled *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (1985). The second book which was used as supporting theory was the theory of Swan from the book entitled *Practical English Usage*. There were kinds of method which was used in this paper involved data source, data collection, and data analysis. Based on the result of the analysis, there were some kinds and forms of the use of the word get in English and it has a different meaning. The kinds of the use of the word get in English and their meaning are: 1) get combined with adjective and has a meaning: "become" and "suffer". 2) get combined with past participle and has a meaning to make somebody/something or yourself to reach a particular situation, state or condition. 3) get combined with noun/pronoun and has a meaning "bring, receive, and catch/ hit. 4) get combined with a description of the place/time and has meaning "arrive. 5) get combined with an object and has a meaning understand. 6) get combined with adverb or particle preposition and has a meaning refers to a movement, involved, return, to tell somebody move or stop touching.

**Keywords:** the use of word, get, syntax, phrasal verb

## 1. INTRODUCTION

English grammar is how meanings are encoded into wordings in the English language. This included the structure of word, phrases, clause, and sentence, right up to the structure of the whole text. Learning the English language cannot be separated from linguistics. Linguistic is a study of a language system, such as language form language meaning, and language in context. Grammar is the study of words, how they are used in a sentence, and how they change in different situations. The study of sentence structure, rules and examples show how the language should be used. One of the linguistic aspects that studies sentence structure is called syntax, the study of the arrangement of the word into a sentence. The term syntax forms the ancient Greek syntax, a verbal

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noun which literally means an arrangement or setting out together. The syntax may be roughly defined as the principles of the arrangement of the constructive (words) into larger constructions of various kinds.

The syntax is a system of rule which describes how all formed sentences of language can be derived from basic elements. Syntax descriptions are based on the specific methods of sentence analysis and category formation. A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. There are many types of sentences. One way to categorize sentences is by the clause they contain. A clause is a part of a sentence containing a subject and predicate. Sentences can be generated to be a simple, complex, compound, and compound-complex sentences. A part of a sentence that is very important is a phrase. Phrase is a group of word that as function as a unit in sentence. From lexical categories like Nouns(N), Verbs(V), Adjective (Adj), Preposition (Prep), and Adverb (Adv). In making sentences sometimes the writer will combine one of the words so as to produce a new meaning in the sentence. In English, a phrasal verb is the combining of two or three words from different grammatical categories a verb, a particle, a preposition verb to form a single semantic unit. In other words, the meaning is non-compositional and thus unpredictable. Phrasal verbs that include a preposition are known as prepositional verbs and phrasal verbs that include a particle are also known as particle verbs. The meaning of the phrasal verbs is different from the meaning of the words when separated. For example, to "get away" is means to go on holiday, "get off ", use to tell somebody to stop touching you or another person, "get this "use to say that you are going to tell somebody something that they will find surprising or interesting, "get somebody down" (Informal) to make somebody feel sad or depressed which is different from the meaning of the word "get" on its own. Every language has one of those words that you hear all the time, but it's used in so many different ways that it can be confusing. Based on the background, there are several previous studies are used as references in this study. Giyatmi et al (2014) conducted a study entitled *The Analysis of English Word Formations Used on Brand Names Found in Indonesian Products*. The research found that the brand names with English in Indonesian products can be created by applying word formation such as compounding, blending, affixation, reduplication, onomatopoeia, abbreviation, acronym and clipping. The process of compounding consists of pure compounding and modification compounding. In addition, (Fitriani, 2012) also conducted a study which entitle *An Analysis of English Word Formation Process in The World Column News of The Jakarta Post Newspaper on May 21st, 2012 edition*. The English word formation processes which are found are acronym, abbreviation, clipping, blending, borrowing, compounding, coinage,

conversion, derivation and multiple process. It also shows that news writers try to make language that could be mentioned easily. The English word formation process which experience in the change of meaning are compounding, coinage and derivation. And the most frequently use of English word formation process is derivation with 129 words in percentage 39.57%. It seems from the finding result of the research that derivation holds the highest frequency in English word formation process in news. Therefore, (Rizki, 2016) also doing similar study entitled *The Analysis of Word Formation Process Used by Autistic Child. The formation processes of autistic children found word in a conversation with the teacher, namely: derivation, reduplication, acronym and initialism, borrowing, clipping, compounding and blending. From the data analysis found that the dominant word formation process used autistic child is a derivation. The data used was conversation between teacher and autistic child were recorded and transcribed when the process of teaching and learning in class. The collected data are grouped based on the process of forming words.* Moreover, based on previous study above, this research is different from those previous study that has been explain before. This research analyses what are the uses of the word "get" in English and what are their meanings. On the other hand, this research aims to get a deep understand and analyze The uses of the word "get" in English. It is also explained kinds and forms of the used of the word get in English and understand their meaning.

## 2. METHOD

Data source of this research was taken from several novels that are used to support the explanation in this paper. They are; from a *"Building on life broken piece* by Dandie Published by CLM Publishing Cayman Island, *"A Counterintuitive Approach to Living a Good Life."* by Mason first Published in the United State 2016 in Happer one by HarperCollins, *"The big bad wolf "*by Patterson published by headline. Data collection for this paper was done by using the following steps. First, I read the novels carefully to find the required data. Second, I collected the data by marking/ quoting of the sentences in the novels which are related to the topic. The last, I classified the data belong to the kinds of the used of the word get in English. After collecting data and classified the data, this is the time for analysis. The data were presented in sentences form and explaining by using the theory of experts. And then, the data were analyzed to see the kind of the use of the word get in English and their meaning.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After the data have been analyzed, it was found that there were some variations of the use of the word “*get*” in the novels used as the data sources. The word *get* can combined with Adjective, past participle, noun/pronoun, a description of the place/time, an object, Adverb or particle Preposition and in idioms in it uses. These will be analyzed one by one in the following discussions.

#### 3.1. Get Combined with Adjective

*Get* followed by this adjective refers to changes in circumstances or situations or in other words when used in a pattern like this. The meaning formed is ‘become’. The following are some of the uses of *get* with the meaning of *become* used in the data.

##### 1. Get Meaning Become

There is one of data expressing ‘become’ found in the novels. The sentences expressing such kind of meaning can be seen in the following.

At times I'd *get angry* (Swan, 2005).

In the example (a) in the sentence above we can see the use of the word *get* with the adjective. In this example the word *get* is followed with the adjective *angry*. The word *angry* (adjective) which comes after the word *get* gives us an understanding that the subject in the sentence has a change in the feeling which is to become angry. So, *get angry* means *become angry*.

##### 1. Get Meaning Suffer

The word *gets* can also can used to mean suffer when it followed by adjective. Here is the example the used of the word *get* to mean suffer in the novels:

Everyone seems to be *getting the* flu. (Manson, 2016).

In sentence above there is the word *getting* and the word *flu* as an object. in this sentence, the word *getting* means suffering and the word *flue* gives us an understanding of what the subject is suffering from.

### 3.2. Get Combined with Past Participle

*Get* can be used with a past participle. This structure often has a reflexive meaning to talk about things that we do to ourselves (Swan, 2005). The followings are the examples that are used in the novels.

1. *Get* meaning to make somebody/something or yourself to reach a particular situation, state or condition

In the data, there some combination of *get* with past participle which carries the meaning of 'reaching a particular situation'. The examples can be seen below.

let me *get married* again.

In sentence above, the word *get* is followed by past participle *married*. The combination of that expresses the meaning that the speaker wanted to do something for himself, that is 'married'. In example b, the word *get* is followed with the word *engaged*. This combination also expresses the meaning of reaching a particular condition or situation for the subject.

### 3.3. Get Combined with Noun / Pronoun

The word *gets* when it come with noun or pronoun can used to mean, bring, receive, and catch/hit. Here is the example of *get* combined with noun or pronoun.

1. *Get* Meaning Bring

The word *Get* can used to mean to go to a place and bring somebody/something back. Here is found the example of it in the novels:

Jamila *get a cloth* for her! (Patterson, 2003).

In the sentence above we will see the uses of the word *get* followed by a noun. In the example a) *get* followed by a noun (*a cloth*) is has a meaning "*bring*". The noun *a cloth* gives us an understanding of what the subject brings.

1. *Get* Meaning Receive

The word *get* may also be used to express the meaning of 'receive', 'take' or 'buy'. There were some data found in the novels that express such kinds of meaning. These can be seen in the following examples.

Some sixteen years old on TV *got a Ferrari* for her birthday (Manson, 2016).

We can see that in the example (a) *got a Ferrari* may mean that the subject received or bought a Ferrari.

#### 1. Get Meaning Catch / Hit

*Get* can mean *get* somebody to catch or take hold of somebody, especially in order to harm or punish them. Here is the found of *get* with meaning catch/ hit in the novels:

He was on the run for a week before the police *got him*. (Patterson, 2003).

The sentence above is the use of the word *gets* with the meaning of asking someone to catch or hold someone, especially to hurt or punish them. seen in sentence a) there is *got* word followed by a pronoun. the word *got* in this sentence has the meaning of catch, he was on the run for a week before the police caught him. in the sentence, it can be seen that the use of the word *gets* with the meaning of catch and the pronoun gives us the information of the catcher.

### 3.4. Get Combined with a Description of The Place/Time

The word *get* can have a meaning arrive when it followed by description of the place or time. Here is the example.

#### 1. Get Meaning Arrive

We *got to San Diego* at 7 o'clock. (Patterson, 2003)

In the sentence above we will see the use of the word *get* with the meaning of arriving. in sentence a) there is the word *got*, followed by a description of the place, namely *San Diego*. in this sentence the word *got* has the meaning of arriving and *San Diego* is the place where the subject arrived, we arrived at *San Diego* at 7 o'clock.

### 3.5. Get Combined with an Object

The word *gets* when it followed by an object can produce the new meaning like understand. This is normally used in informal situation.

#### 1. Get Meaning Understanding

In informal language *get* can has a meaning understand to somebody/something. Here is found the uses of the word *get* with meaning understand:

I don't *get* you (Patterson, 2003).

The sentence above is the use of the word *gets* with the meaning to understand. this usage is usually used in informal speech. In sentence above, the use of the word *gets* has the meaning to understand and be followed by the object. the meaning of this sentence is I don't understand you.

### 3.6. Get Combined with Adverb or Preposition

Before an adverb particle (like *up*, *away*, *out*) or a preposition, *get* nearly always refers to a movement of some kind. In some idioms the meaning is different. Like *get* to a place means arrive, *get over something* means 'recover from' and *get on with somebody* means have a good relationship with. With an object, the structure usually means 'make somebody/something move' (Swan, 2005). The examples below are of some kinds taken from the data.

#### 3.6.1. Get Means Refers to Movement

In other to *get up* and do something about it (Dandie, 2015)

In sentence above, the use of the word *get* is followed by adverb *up*. The combination is *get up*. This combination means 'awake' (to move away from a particular place). So, the sentence above means 'in order to awake and do something about it'.

#### 3.6.2. Get Meaning Involved

The word gets with a preposition can also have the meaning involved. below is the word get combined with the proposition and has the meaning involved in the novel:

I *got into* our parents unraveling emotional lives was hearing "nobody cheated on anybody." Oh that is nice (Mason, 2016)

In the example (a) the used *get* with preposition *into* is mean become involved in something. The word parents an object that give us information with who the subject become involved.

#### 3.6.3. Get Meaning Return

I *got back* on the phone with coulter (Patterson, 2016)

In the example above, *got back* the used of the word *get* with *back* as an adverb is use to mean to return. The sentence *phone with coulter* is give us information where the subject return to.

### 3.6.4. Get Meaning to Tell Somebody Move or Stop Touching

Hey! Somebody, help! *Get off* of me (Patterson,2003)

In sentence above, *get off* of me, the word *gets off* is combination of the word *get* with preposition, this is used to mean to tell somebody to stop touching you or another person. the word of me is give us information of someone who tell somebody for stop touching.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion, it can be concluded that there are some kinds and forms of the used of the word *get* in English. The kinds of the used of the word *get* in English there are; *get* can combined with Adjective, past participle, noun/pronoun, a description of the place/time, an object, Adverb or particle Preposition and in idioms in it uses. From the analysis also found that the word *get* with different combination it will produces a new meaning. There are: 1) *get* combined with adjective and has a meaning: “become” and “suffer”. 2) *get* combined with past participle and has a meaning to make somebody/something or yourself to reach a particular situation, state or condition. 3) *get* combined with noun/pronoun and has a meaning ” bring, receive, and catch/ hit. 4) *get* combined with a description of the place/time and has meaning ” arrive. 5) *get* combined with an object and has a meaning understand. 6) *get* combined with adverb or particle preposition and has a meaning refers to a movement, involved, return, to tell somebody move or stop touching.

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