

Teaching Resource: Filipino Nouns

This product from the TeacherPayTeachers store Oliotopia is a resource material for teachers and parents who are teaching the Filipino language. It describes how Filipino nouns (apart from nouns used as root words) are formed from root words. The resulting nouns are grouped into three main types: affixed nouns (mga pangngalang maylapi), compound nouns (mga pangngalang tambalan), and reduplicated nouns (mga pangngalang inuulit). This product provides lists of examples of nouns that fall under these three categories.

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Affixed Nouns in Filipino

Mga Pangngalang Maylapi sa Filipino

This product is a resource material for teachers and parents who are teaching the Filipino language. It can help them understand how Filipino nouns are formed using affixes in order for them to create their own teaching or assessment materials.

Many Filipino words are formed by adding affixes at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of the root word. In Filipino, these affixes are called *unlapi* (prefix), *gitlapi* (infix), and *hulapi* (suffix), respectively. The Filipino word for affix is *panlapi*. Affixes may be composed of one or more syllables. A root word (*salitang-ugat*) can have one or a combination of two or more affixes to form new words. An affix composed of a prefix and a suffix is called a circumfix. In Filipino, this type of affix is called *kabilaan*, which means 'both sides'.

Filipino affixes also have variant forms depending on the beginning letter of the root word (for prefixes) and final letter of the root word (for suffixes). Refer to the table below. However, these rules are not always followed. There are exemptions.

| Filipino prefix | Beginning letter of root word | Example |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| mang- | Vowels a, e, i, o, or u and consonants g, h, k, m, n, ng, w, or y | <i>mang-aawit</i> <i>manggagawa</i> |
| mam- (variant of mang-) | Consonants b or p | <i>mambobola</i> |
| man- (variant of mang-) | Consonants d, l, r, s, or t | <i>manlalakbay</i> |
| pang- | Vowels a, e, i, o, or u and consonants g, h, k, m, n, ng, w, or y | <i>pang-amoy</i> <i>pangkulay</i> |
| pam- (variant of pang-) | Consonants b or p | <i>pambalot</i> |
| pan- (variant of pang-) | Consonants d, l, r, s, or t | <i>pandikit</i> |

Oftentimes, aside from affixation, reduplication is applied in the formation of Filipino nouns. In this case, *reduplication* involves repeating the first letter, first two letters, or first syllable of the root word. The first letter of the root word may also be dropped or replaced with another letter when forming affixed nouns.

This product includes a set of five PDF files (28 pages in total) that provide a total of over 500 examples of Filipino nouns with affixes. The nouns are grouped based on the prefix, suffix, or circumfix used to form them. This product does not include all of the affixes used to form Filipino nouns, but it does provide an extensive list of examples.

For each affix, a list of examples of Filipino nouns using that particular affix is provided in alphabetical order. A short description of the nouns is provided in English and the English definition of each noun is written in parentheses. Read the example below. Note that the definitions of the root words are not included because it is assumed that the reader is fluent in the Filipino language.

The prefix **ka-**

The prefix **ka-** is used to form nouns that denote a person with an equal status or role.

kaagaw (rival)

kabarkada (a co-member of the same gang)

kaaway (enemy)

kabiyak (one of a pair)

kabahay (housemate)

Compound Nouns in Filipino

Mga Pangngalang Tambalan sa Filipino

Some Filipino words are formed using two words. Filipino nouns that are made up of two words, which are usually separated by a hyphen (*gitling*), are called *pangngalang tambalan*. The words need not be both nouns. Filipino compound nouns usually refer to things that have the qualities of both words used in the compound noun. This product lists over 200 Filipino compound nouns and their English translations, but it does not include all Filipino compound nouns.

Reduplicated Nouns in Filipino

Mga Pangngalang Inuulit sa Filipino

Some Filipino nouns are formed by either repeating the entire root word or repeating part of the root word. This process is called **reduplication**. In Filipino, reduplication of one or more syllables of the root word is common. Nouns formed using reduplication are called *pangngalang inuulit*. Filipino reduplicated nouns use a hyphen to separate entire words (e.g., *dala-dala*) or to separate the repeated syllables of the root word (e.g., *pala-palagay*).

Noun suffixes like *-an* or *-han* are oftentimes added to reduplicated nouns. The suffix *-an* is used if the root word ends in a Filipino vowel. The suffix *-han* is used if the root word ends in a Filipino consonant. When used with a reduplicated root word, these suffixes often indicate a form of pretension (e.g., *ama-amahan*, *baril-barilan*) or signify a smaller version of something (e.g., *dagat-dagatan*, *ilog-ilugan*).

This product has over 40 examples of reduplicated Filipino nouns.

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