The morphological impairments, i.e. substitutions or paraphasias, (in the cases of the present study) so far analyzed and discussed in the previous chapters 4 & 5, were of very selective nature in terms of metal representation and processing. They presented finely grained dissociations between different inflectional markers, and inflectional markings on different word classes. The dissociations were of both types – single and double dissociations. Double dissociations confirmed the autonomous processing of the entities which were suggested strongly by single dissociations.

Dissociations were found between different plurality markers and also within a single plurality marker. Dissociation was also observed between tense and aspect inflectional markers. Dissociation was also observed between input orthography and input phonology; between lexical and post-lexical output; between different derivational suffixes for nominalization (of adjectives); between indefinite aspect and others; within indefinite aspect & between orthographic and phonological comprehension. Double dissociations were observed between number and gender inflectional morphology; between noun and adjective word classes; & between feminine and masculine adjectives. The fact that the entity could be selectively spared or selectively impaired proved the autonomy of the entity in the language processing system, i.e. mental lexicon.

Based on the single dissociations and double dissociations exhibited in the cases – R.K., OPS, & DKJ – following conclusions could be drawn about the processing of the language.

1. Input orthography for single word and input orthography for sentences are autonomous.
2. Auditory comprehension and orthographic comprehension are autonomous.
3. Single word processing and sentence processing are autonomous.
4. Inflectional and derivational morphology are autonomous.
5. Plurality markers process separately on nouns and adjectives.
6. Nouns and adjectives are processed separately.
7. Tense and aspect are autonomous within the verbal inflectional system.
8. Indefinite aspect processes separately against perfective and progressive aspect.
9. Autonomous representation of number and gender inflectional morphology.
10. Autonomous processing of the derivational morpheme ‘-ai’.
11. Tense is placed higher in the hierarchy of the access to the verbs.
12. Number inflectional marker is lower in hierarchy than the gender – for the access to nouns and adjectives.

Other inferences drawn from this analysis of the impaired data are following -
13. Syntactic processing deficits are not a factor behind the morphological paraphasias.
14. There is a separation of morphological component from syntactic one.

The findings and the results support autonomous morpheme representation. Words are, therefore, stripped of the affixes for the process of identification, retrieval or recognition and therefore free morphemes and bound morphemes are represented autonomously in the mental lexicon. This also supports that morphology comes only after syntactic planning. In this way, the morphological component has been recognized as an independent level of grammatical representation with its own principles and properties.