One of the main devices used to express different feelings and concepts of users of a new variety of a language is new vocabulary. Sri Lankan English which is identified as a distinct variety of English has a rich vocabulary which resulted from English coming into contact with other languages in Sri Lanka. Literature of a language has always played a significant role in developing and expanding its vocabulary. The production of short stories in English has rendered people in Sri Lanka to represent their ethnic and cultural diversification through literature, and hence their literary works reflect the uniqueness of Sri Lankan English. Sri Lankan English vocabulary has been enriched by the continuous addition of new words formed through a number of morphological processes. The aim of this study is to examine the contribution of the production of Sri Lankan short stories in expanding the Sri Lankan English vocabulary. Furthermore, this study investigates the use of different morphological processes of Sri Lankan English used in four Sri Lankan short stories written by authors belong to four main ethnic groups in Sri Lanka. The findings of the study are presented both qualitatively and quantitatively after a careful textual analysis. This study reveals morphological processes such as borrowing, compounding, semantic creations, loan translations in addition to other identified morphological processes. The results of the study further reveal that borrowing is the most commonly used morphological process; hence the selected Sri Lankan short stories of English have borrowing as a productive morphological process along with other creative strategies of generating new words. The results lend ideas for further research in identifying the contribution made by literature to develop and expand the vocabulary of a new variety of English such as Sri Lankan English.

Keywords: Sri Lankan English, Short Stories, Morphological Processes