

**A0044**

**Daniel KAUFMAN**

**John WHITMAN**

### **The Nominalization Cycle**

Thematic/participant nominalizations, event nominalizations, VP nominalizations and higher clausal nominalizations can apparently all be reanalyzed over time as canonical matrix clause predicates, but the motivations, resulting structures and interpretations are different in each case. Some of the larger questions we are interested in in this regard are: What are the different types of contexts that give rise to lower versus higher level nominalizations? What are the different consequences for alignment systems between lower and higher level nominalizations? What types of alignment system splits are conditioned by what kinds of nominalizations? These are all very much new questions which could not be posed until recently due to the lack of detailed data on reanalyses across languages and language families. These papers give some much needed attention to these “bigger picture” issues.

Another topic of interest is the tail end of what we term here “the nominalization cycle”. After nominalizations are reinterpreted as canonical main clause predicates, there is often some accretion of typical verbal features. Their original nominalization function is also consequently supplanted by newer morphological formations and syntactic constructions. Again, this is an area which has not received much attention at all in the comparative or historical literature but which will be tackled here with the benefit of broad cross-linguistic comparison.