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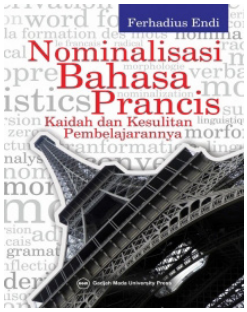
BOOK REVIEW



Nominalisasi Bahasa Prancis: Kaidah dan Kesulitan Pembelajarannya
Author : Ferhadius Endi
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As stated by its author, Ferhadius Endi, his book is dedicated to Indonesian learners of French who often find difficulties in understanding French word formations, in particular the nominalization. Not only is French nominalization a complex word formation process, but also the fact that it is mostly explained in French references that give more difficulties for Indonesians learners to understand this particular area.

Following Finegan et al (1992:77) who stated that words can be analized in four aspects: phonological, semantical, syntactical, and morphological aspects, this book mainly focusses on the morphological process of the four French word classes: adjective, verb, adverb, and numeral into nouns.

This books explains that French nominalization has two types: afixation and conversion that can be explained using general morphological patterns. The nominalization process of each word class, however, has different steps. The nominalization process of the adjectives in French needs the base word which then is added by suffixes, in the affixation process, or with zero-derivation, in the process of conversion. Moreover, the process of verbal nominalization take the root word which then is added by the suffixes. However in the adverbial and numeral nominalization, the suffix derivations are not needed as the nominalization only undergoes the coversion process or in French is called *derivation impropre*. The readers are reminded of the 3 important aspects that influence the formation of French nomina: gender (masculine/feminine), number (singular/plural), and determinant. These three aspects are the most distinct difference between French (conjugation language) and Bahasa Inonesia (agglutinative language). So in these areas as well students will usually meet poblems

As the book is dedicated to especially Indonesian young learners of French whose general linguistics knowledge could still be very limited, the book also explains the general theoretical background of the nominalization process by providing related linguistics terminologies. Moreover, to give a better picture, the book gives examples of sentences in French and sometimes compare the French grammar to Bahasa Indonesia and English assuming the learners have some grammar knowledge of the latter languages.

In the theoretical background, it explains, in general, the type of morphemes: free and bound morphemes; word classes: nominal, adjectival, verbal, adverbial, and numeral; afixation: inflectional, derivational, and conversion; morphophonemic; grammatical and lexical meaning, and the anticipated problems for learners.

In chapter two, the book explains more detail the two types of nominalization in French: afixation and conversion. In adjectival nominalization using suffix, or called deadjectival, referring to Kridalaksana (2011: 44), it involves suffixes, such as: {-te}: {-erie}; {-eur}; {-iste}; {-esse} and others. Then each suffix is further explained how it combines with which adjectives that come in masculine and feminine forms. It also explains

that some suffixes : {-ité}, {-ance}; {-ard} may have their respective allomorfs. Suffix {-ité} may change to {-eté} or {-té} when joining with some adjectives. For example, masculine adjective *faux*, its feminine form is *fausse* and it becomes a noun: *la fauss**et**é*. Similarly suffix {-ance} has allomorph {-ence}and {-ard} has allomorph {-arde}.

It is also mentioned that the nominal resulted from this suffixation usually becomes female nomina, for example: adjective *vaillant* (m) – *vaillante* (f) becomes female nomina *la vaillance*; adjectives *bête* (m) – *bête* (f) become : *la bêtise*, a female nomina. Suffixes {-isme}; {-in} and {-ard} however form masculine nomina; whereas {-isme} forms abstract nomina indicating belief or idea, {-in} and {-ard} form masculine nomina indicating person.

The conversion process does not include suffix in forming the nominal, most of the conversion nominals keep the feminine form of the adjective. For example the female adjective *petite* its nominal form is *la petite*

Like adjectival nominalization, the verbal nominalization also can take place either under suffixation or conversion. French verbal consists of *radical* and *terminaison*. The ***radical*** is the part of verb that is used in the suffixation of the nominalization; whereas the t*erminaison*, the 3 French verbal endings: {-er}, {-ir}, {- re} or {–oir}, is not. For example: the verb ramasser (to collect) : *ramass* (radical) + -er (terminaison); nominalization: ramass (radical) + -eur (suffix) → *ramassaeur*. Gender does not determine verbal nominalization

Suffixes used in verbal nominalization, among others, are : {-ement}; {-ion}; {-ure}; {-ade}; {-erie}; {-ance}; {-eur}; {-iste}. Each of which may have its allomorph variants; however, {-ade} does not have any allomorph. For example: suffix {-ement} in verb *mander* becomes noun *le mand**ement*** but the verb *agrandir* is nominalized using the variant {-ement} of {-issement}.

As this book is intended for beginner learners of French, it would be helpful if the book explained which verbs combine with which suffixes to form which gender nomina or stated as there were not any such rule. Besides, all nouns in each verbal nominalization category mention the definite article le or la indicating masculine or feminine noun, the verbal nominalization with suffix {-ade} does not show the article although stated that the nouns are feminine.

There are three types of verbs that can be nominalized using conversion: infinitive verbs, present particple verbs and past participle verbs. Most of these verbs are simply added with definite articles identifying feminine or masculine nominal. However, there are some nouns without articles. Their gender can be determined from the determinant used in the sentence., For example: *Je veux **nager** à la plage* in contrast to ***Nager** dans la mer est dangeraux parfois.* Whereas *nager* in the first sentence is an infinitive verb, the second one is a noun functioning as the subject of the sentence. With the last two types, the nominalized verbs are the present and past participles not their infinitive: a. ***Les habitants** de ce village sont pauvres* and b. ***L'arrivée** de Patrick dans ce meeting est important. Les habitant*s is a plural noun derived from the present participle verb *habitant* not the infinitive *habiter*. Similarly, *L'arrivée* is from the past participle verb *arriv*é not the infinitive *arriver.* The book explains the possibility of nominalizing the participle verbs.

The last part of nominalization discussed in chapter two is adverbial and numerial both of which are nominalized with conversion. For example: *Cela s'addresse a **l'ensemble** des habitants* in comparison to *On va faire unde balade **ensemble;*** whereas the first *l'ensemble* a noun the latter an adverb. The following is the example of nominalized numerial: *J'ai **deux** chats. Ils sont a maison* in comparison with *J'ai deux charts, **Les deux** son mignons.* Whereas *deux* is numerial, *les deux* is a nominal.

Chapter three discusses the explanation of the morphophonemic process of the allomorphs in some suffixes in adjectival and verbal nominalization process. The allomorphs of suffixes in adjectival nominalization are {-té} and {-eté}of suffix {-ité} and {-ance} and {-ence} of suffix {-ance}. Whereas the allomorphs of the two suffixes occur due to phonological influence, the writer regards {-arde} not the allomorph of {-ard} as he did in the previous chapter. This somewhat will confuse the learners. Together with {-in}, {-ard} nominalizes adjectives to masculine nominals; yet, unlike {-in}, {-ard} has its variant {-arde} indicating feminine

nominal. The allomorphs of suffixes in verbal nominalization are {-issement} of suffix {-ement}; {-issage} of suffix {-age}; {-ation} and {-ition} of suffix {-tion}; and {-ature} of suffix {-ure}. Usually the main suffixes are added to verbs with the ending (terminaison) –er; the allomorphs are usually added to the verb with ending –ir or –re/oir. For example: pilot*er* becomes pilotage, however, agrand*ir* become aggrand*issage* {-issage} the allomorph of {-age}; fin*ir* becomes fin*ition {-ition}* the allomorph of the suffix {-tion} ; however, present*er* becomes present*ation; {-ation}* is also allomorph of {-tion}. The use of this allomorph is due to lack of vowel in the radical of the verb.

The author also reminds the readers of the grammatical meaning of the adjectival and verbal nominalization in chapter four. Each of suffixes in adjectival nominalization indicates different grammatical meaning of the nouns. For example, suffixes {-ie; -eur; -itude}makes the nouns indicate a state of something; suffixes {-ise; - esse; -ard} indicate quality of something; suffixes {-ite; -erie} indicating either state or quality of something; {-isme} indicating ideology or belief; {-ence} indicating action; {-in} indicating agent or doer.

Putting them in table will give easier reading. Similarly suffixes of verbal nominalization indicating various meaning will also be easier to read if presented in group. Suffixes of verbal nominalization indicate action {-age, -asion}, result of action {- tion, -ure, -is, ance;- aille}. Some suffixes may indicate either action or result of action {-ement; -tion, -is}. Suffixes –oir, -et } indicate tools of the action;

Adjectival conversion nouns are easier to detect both their forms and meanings, the determinant occur before the words indicating them as singular or plural and as feminine or masculine nouns, the plurality marker at the end of the noun also indicate the words are no longer adjectives but nouns.

Verbal conversion nouns derived from infinitve verbs have the same form and meaning of those of their verbs. The nouns indicate the result of the action of the vebs. Verbal conversion nouns derived from present participle verbs (for example: les habitants) indicating agent or doer of the verb, whereas those from past participles, the meaning indicate the result of the action.

The last issues discussed in the book are the possible dificulties for Indonesian learners learning French. The fact that the two languages are of different types is regarded as the most influential problem to learners. The first distinct difference between French and Bahasa Indonesia is that the former is a conjugation language in which gender and number determine the formation of words; whereas, the latter is an agglutinatve whose word structure and its grammatical relations are shown by free combination structures. In terms of nominalization, too in French only adjective and verb can be nominalized using suffixation, but adverb and numeral can be nomilized only by conversion, whereas, in Indonesian, adjective, verb, adverb and numerial can be nominalized by affixation. Moreover, Indonesian words can be nominalized using all the three types of affixation: prefix or suffix and both prefix and suffix.