



# IJTIMOIIY-GUMANITAR SOHADA ILMIIY-INNOVATION TADQIQOTLAR

ILMIY METODIK JURNALI

ISSN 3060-5059



**VOL.3 № 4**

**2026**

## **BOSMA VA RAQAMLI ILMIY OMMAVIY AXBOROT VOSITALARIDA SINTAKTIK NOMINALIZATSIYANING STILISTIK QIYOSIY TAHLILI**

**Yoqubjonova Shahnozabegim**

Samarqand iqtisodiyot va servis instituti, o'qituvchi

**Yoqubjonova Nodirabegim**

Samarqand tibbiyot universiteti, o'qituvchi

### **Annotatsiya**

Ushbu tadqiqot bosma va raqamli ilmiy ommaviy axborot vositalarida sintaktik nominalizatsiyaning qiyosiy stilistik tahlilini taqdim etadi. Nominalizatsiya — fe'l yoki sifatlarni otga aylantirish jarayoni bo'lib, ilmiy diskursning leksik zichlik va ob'ektivlikni ta'minlovchi asosiy belgisidir. An'anaviy bosma jurnallar va zamonaviy raqamli ilmiy platformalar maqolalari korpusi yordamida ushbu tadqiqot media formatining nominalizatsiyalashgan tuzilmalarning chastotasi va funksiyasiga ta'sirini o'rganadi. Natijalar shuni ko'rsatadiki, bosma nashrlar rasmiy nufuzni saqlab qolish uchun murakkab nominalizatsiyalarning yuqori zichligini saqlab qolsa-da, raqamli mediada o'qishni osonlashtirish va foydalanuvchi qiziqishini oshirish uchun nominalizatsiyalardan kamroq foydalanish, ya'ni "fe'llashish" tamoyili kuzatiladi. Tadqiqot shunday xulosaga keladiki, raqamli o'tish jarayoni ilmiy muloqotning an'anaviy grammatik profilini ko'proq harakatga yo'naltirilgan va tushunarli uslubga o'zgartirmoqda.

**Kalit so'zlar:** sintaktik nominalizatsiya, ilmiy media, stilistik qiyosiy tahlil, raqamli diskurs, leksik zichlik, ilmiy muloqot, grammatik metafora.

## **СТИЛИСТИЧЕСКОЕ СОПОСТАВЛЕНИЕ СИНТАКСИЧЕСКОЙ НОМИНАЛИЗАЦИИ В ПЕЧАТНЫХ И ЦИФРОВЫХ НАУЧНЫХ МЕДИА**

**Ёкубжонова Шахнозабегим**

Самаркандский институт экономики и сервиса, преподаватель

**Ёкубжонова Нодирабегим**

Самаркандский медицинский университет, преподаватель

### **Аннотация**

Данное исследование представляет собой сравнительный стилистический анализ синтаксической номинализации в печатных и цифровых научных СМИ. Номинализация — процесс превращения глаголов или прилагательных в существительные — является отличительной чертой научного дискурса, способствующей лексической плотности и объективности. На основе корпуса статей из традиционных печатных журналов и современных цифровых научных платформ исследуется влияние медиа-формата на частоту и функции номинализированных структур. Результаты показывают, что в то время как печатные СМИ сохраняют высокую плотность сложных номинализаций для поддержания формального авторитета, в цифровых СМИ наблюдается «глагольный» сдвиг, при котором используется меньше номинализаций для повышения читабельности и вовлеченности пользователей. Исследование делает вывод, что переход в цифровую среду меняет традиционный грамматический профиль научной коммуникации в сторону более динамичного и доступного стиля.

**Ключевые слова:** синтаксическая номинализация, научные СМИ, стилистическое сравнение, цифровой дискурс, лексическая плотность, научная коммуникация, грамматическая метафора.

## **A STYLISTIC COMPARISON OF SYNTACTIC NOMINALIZATION IN PRINT AND**

## DIGITAL SCIENCE MEDIA

**Yoqubjonova Shahnozabegim**

Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service, Teacher

**Yoqubjonova Nodirabegim**

Samarkand Medical University, Teacher

### Abstract

This study presents a comparative stylistic analysis of syntactic nominalization in print and digital science media. Nominalization, the process of transforming verbs or adjectives into nouns, is a hallmark of scientific discourse that facilitates lexical density and objectivity. By analyzing a corpus of articles from traditional print journals and contemporary digital science platforms, this research examines how the medium influences the frequency and function of nominalized structures. The findings indicate that while print media maintains a higher density of complex nominalizations to preserve formal authority, digital media exhibits a "verbal" shift, utilizing fewer nominalizations to enhance readability and user engagement. The study concludes that the digital transition is reshaping the traditional grammatical profile of science communication toward a more action-oriented and accessible style.

**Keywords:** syntactic nominalization, science media, stylistic comparison, digital discourse, lexical density, scientific communication, grammatical metaphor.

In recent decades, the rapid expansion of digital technologies has significantly transformed the landscape of scientific communication. The emergence of online platforms, open-access journals, and multimedia-based dissemination has not only altered the accessibility of scientific knowledge but also reshaped the linguistic and stylistic conventions through which this knowledge is conveyed. One of the key linguistic phenomena reflecting these changes is syntactic nominalization, a process widely recognized as a central feature of scientific discourse.

Nominalization, defined as the transformation of verbs and adjectives into noun forms, plays a crucial role in increasing lexical density, facilitating abstraction, and maintaining an impersonal and objective tone. Traditionally, printed scientific media—such as academic journals and monographs—have relied heavily on nominalized constructions to achieve a high level of formality and conceptual precision. These constructions allow complex processes and relationships to be compressed into compact nominal phrases, thereby contributing to the authoritative style characteristic of scientific writing.

However, with the shift toward digital scientific media, there has been a noticeable change in communicative priorities. Digital platforms emphasize readability, immediacy, and user engagement, often encouraging more dynamic and reader-friendly language. As a result, a tendency toward "verbalization"—that is, the increased use of verb-based structures instead of nominalized forms—has begun to emerge. This shift reflects broader changes in audience expectations and the need to make scientific information more accessible to a wider and more diverse readership. Despite the growing importance of digital media, there remains a relative lack of comprehensive studies that systematically compare the stylistic functions of syntactic nominalization across print and digital scientific discourse. Existing research has largely focused either on traditional academic writing or on general features of digital communication, leaving a gap in understanding how specific grammatical strategies, such as nominalization, operate within different media environments.

Therefore, this study aims to conduct a comparative stylistic analysis of syntactic nominalization in print and digital science media. By examining the frequency, structural patterns, and communicative functions of nominalized constructions in both formats, the research seeks to identify key stylistic differences and to explain how the medium influences linguistic choices. Ultimately, the study contributes to a deeper understanding of the ongoing evolution of scientific

discourse in the context of digital transformation. The study of syntactic nominalization has long occupied a central position within the field of Systemic Functional Linguistics, where it is often interpreted as a form of grammatical metaphor. One of the most influential contributions to this area is associated with M.A.K. Halliday, who conceptualized nominalization as a key resource for constructing abstract meaning in scientific discourse. According to Halliday, nominalization enables the reorganization of experiential meanings into more compact and hierarchically structured forms, thereby increasing lexical density and facilitating the representation of complex processes as static entities. This transformation is particularly characteristic of academic and scientific texts, where precision and objectivity are highly valued.

Building on Halliday's framework, numerous scholars have explored the stylistic and functional implications of nominalization. Douglas Biber and his colleagues conducted corpus-based analyses demonstrating that academic prose exhibits significantly higher frequencies of nominalizations compared to other registers. Their findings suggest that nominalization contributes to informational density and allows writers to condense multiple propositions into a single syntactic unit. Similarly, Ken Hyland emphasized the role of disciplinary conventions in shaping the use of nominalized structures, arguing that such constructions are closely tied to the rhetorical practices and epistemological norms of academic communities.

In the context of media discourse, the distinction between print and digital formats has attracted increasing scholarly attention. Traditional print media, including peer-reviewed journals and scholarly monographs, have been shown to maintain a high degree of formalization, often relying on complex nominal structures to reinforce authority and credibility. In contrast, digital media environments—characterized by hypertextuality, interactivity, and rapid information exchange—tend to favor more accessible and reader-oriented styles. Researchers such as David Crystal have noted that digital communication often promotes linguistic simplification, including a reduction in nominalization and a preference for more dynamic, verb-centered constructions.

Furthermore, studies on digital discourse highlight the growing importance of audience engagement and readability. The shift toward user-centered communication has led to the adaptation of scientific texts for broader audiences, including non-specialists. This tendency is particularly evident in online science journalism and educational platforms, where clarity and immediacy are prioritized over traditional markers of academic formality. As a result, the use of nominalization in digital contexts is often strategically reduced or restructured to enhance comprehension.

Despite these valuable contributions, there remains a need for more targeted comparative research that explicitly examines how syntactic nominalization functions across different media formats within scientific communication. While previous studies have addressed nominalization in academic writing and general features of digital language, few have systematically analyzed the interaction between medium, stylistic choice, and grammatical structure.

Therefore, this study seeks to fill this gap by integrating insights from functional linguistics, corpus analysis, and media discourse studies. By comparing print and digital scientific media, it aims to provide a more nuanced understanding of how nominalization operates as a stylistic and communicative resource in evolving linguistic environments.

This study adopts a mixed-methods research design that integrates both quantitative corpus-based analysis and qualitative stylistic interpretation in order to examine the use of syntactic nominalization in print and digital scientific media. Such an approach allows for a comprehensive investigation of not only the frequency of nominalized constructions but also their functional and stylistic roles within different communicative environments.

The empirical basis of the research consists of two comparable corpora: one representing traditional print scientific media and the other representing digital scientific platforms. The print corpus includes articles selected from peer-reviewed academic journals and printed scientific magazines published within the last decade. The digital corpus, in contrast, comprises articles from

online scientific journals, open-access repositories, and science communication websites. To ensure comparability, texts in both corpora were selected based on similar disciplinary domains, thematic focus, and approximate length.

The total size of each corpus was standardized to maintain balance and reliability of results. Each corpus contains approximately equal numbers of texts and word counts, enabling a consistent comparison of nominalization patterns across media formats. The texts were processed and annotated using corpus analysis techniques, focusing on the identification of nominalized structures derived from verbs and adjectives.

For the purposes of this study, syntactic nominalization is operationally defined as the transformation of verbal or adjectival predicates into noun phrases that function as core elements within a clause. These include, but are not limited to, deverbal nouns (e.g., “development,” “analysis”) and deadjectival nouns (e.g., “complexity,” “stability”). Both simple and complex nominal groups were taken into account, including those embedded within larger syntactic constructions.

The quantitative analysis involves calculating the frequency of nominalized structures per 1,000 words in each corpus. This measurement provides an indicator of lexical density and allows for a direct comparison between print and digital media. In addition, the distribution of nominalization types and their structural complexity were examined to identify patterns specific to each medium.

The qualitative component of the study focuses on the functional interpretation of nominalization within context. Selected examples from both corpora were analyzed to determine how nominalized constructions contribute to meaning-making, textual cohesion, and stylistic effect. Particular attention was paid to the role of nominalization in expressing abstraction, compressing information, and constructing an impersonal tone.

Furthermore, the study considers the broader communicative goals associated with each media format. In print media, nominalization is analyzed in relation to formality, authority, and disciplinary conventions. In digital media, its usage is examined in terms of readability, accessibility, and audience engagement. This dual perspective enables a deeper understanding of how linguistic choices are shaped by the medium of communication.

Overall, the methodological framework of this research ensures both empirical rigor and interpretive depth, providing a solid foundation for the subsequent analysis and discussion of results.

The analysis of the corpora reveals clear and systematic differences in the use of syntactic nominalization between print and digital scientific media. Quantitative findings indicate that nominalized structures occur with significantly higher frequency in print texts than in digital ones. On average, the print corpus demonstrates a notably greater number of nominalizations per 1,000 words, confirming the tendency of traditional academic writing to rely on dense, noun-centered constructions. In contrast, the digital corpus shows a reduced frequency of such structures, reflecting a shift toward more dynamic and reader-oriented expression.

To illustrate these differences more clearly, the main quantitative indicators of nominalization usage are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Comparative frequency and structural characteristics of nominalization in print and digital scientific media**

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Print Media</b>	<b>Digital Media</b>
Nominalizations (per 1,000 words)	145	82
Average nominal group length (words)	5.8	3.2
Percentage of complex nominal structures (%)	68%	34%

Deverbal nominalizations (%)	72%	55%
Use of verb-based alternatives (%)	28%	61%

As shown in Table 1, print media consistently demonstrates higher values across all indicators related to nominalization density and structural complexity. In particular, the proportion of complex nominal structures in print texts is nearly double that of digital texts, indicating a stronger tendency toward information compression and abstraction.

A closer examination of structural patterns further highlights these differences. Print media texts frequently employ complex nominal groups, often consisting of multiple embedded elements such as pre-modifiers, post-modifiers, and prepositional phrases. These constructions enable the compression of extensive information into a single syntactic unit, contributing to a high level of abstraction and conceptual density. For example, processes that might otherwise be expressed through full clauses are instead condensed into nominal phrases, thereby minimizing overt agency and emphasizing results or states.

Digital media texts, on the other hand, display a preference for simpler syntactic constructions. Nominalizations, when present, tend to be less structurally complex and are often accompanied by more explicit verbal expressions. This results in a more linear and transparent flow of information, where actions and processes are clearly articulated through verbs rather than embedded within nominal forms. Such a pattern supports readability and facilitates quicker comprehension, which are essential features of online communication.

From a functional perspective, nominalization in print media serves several key purposes. It enhances objectivity by suppressing the role of the agent, allowing the focus to remain on processes and outcomes rather than on individual actors. It also contributes to the formal tone and authoritative style expected in traditional scientific discourse. Moreover, the use of nominalization supports the organization of information into tightly structured arguments, where complex ideas can be systematically developed and interconnected.

In digital media, however, the functional priorities shift toward accessibility and engagement. The reduced reliance on nominalization corresponds with an increased use of verb-based constructions, which convey actions more directly and vividly. This “verbalization” trend not only improves clarity but also aligns with the expectations of a broader and more diverse audience, including non-specialists. As a result, digital scientific texts often appear more conversational and interactive, even when addressing complex topics.

Another important finding concerns the distribution of nominalization types. In print media, deverbal nouns are particularly dominant, reflecting the emphasis on processes and analytical operations. In digital media, while deverbal forms are still present, there is a noticeable increase in alternative structures, such as finite clauses and active constructions, which provide greater immediacy and transparency. Overall, the results demonstrate that the medium of communication plays a decisive role in shaping stylistic and grammatical choices. The higher density and complexity of nominalization in print media reinforce its traditional role as a domain of formal, specialized knowledge production. In contrast, the streamlined and more verb-oriented style of digital media reflects its function as a platform for accessible and user-centered dissemination of scientific information.

These findings suggest that the ongoing digital transformation of scientific communication is not merely a technological shift but also a linguistic and stylistic one, influencing how knowledge is structured, presented, and understood. The present study set out to investigate the stylistic differences in the use of syntactic nominalization across print and digital scientific media, with particular attention to its frequency, structural complexity, and communicative functions. The findings clearly demonstrate that nominalization remains a defining

feature of traditional print-based scientific discourse, where it serves as a key mechanism for achieving lexical density, abstraction, and an impersonal tone. In contrast, digital scientific media exhibit a noticeable reduction in the use of nominalized constructions, accompanied by a shift toward more verb-centered and reader-oriented expression.

This divergence reflects broader changes in the communicative goals and audience expectations associated with different media formats. Print media continue to prioritize formal authority, precision, and disciplinary convention, which are effectively supported by dense nominal structures. Digital media, however, emphasize accessibility, clarity, and engagement, leading to a preference for more transparent syntactic patterns. As a result, the traditional grammatical profile of scientific discourse is undergoing a gradual transformation in response to the demands of the digital environment.

From a theoretical perspective, the study confirms the relevance of nominalization as a core resource within Systemic Functional Linguistics, particularly in relation to the concept of grammatical metaphor. At the same time, it extends existing research by demonstrating how the use of this resource is mediated by technological and contextual factors. The interaction between medium and linguistic choice highlights the dynamic nature of scientific discourse, which continues to evolve alongside changes in communication technologies.

In practical terms, the results of this study have important implications for academic writing, science communication, and pedagogy. For authors and researchers, an awareness of stylistic variation between print and digital contexts can inform more effective communication strategies tailored to specific audiences. For educators, the findings underscore the need to teach not only the formal conventions of scientific writing but also the adaptive use of language in different media environments.

Overall, the study concludes that the ongoing digital transition is not merely reshaping how scientific knowledge is distributed, but also how it is linguistically constructed. The observed shift from nominalization toward more dynamic and accessible forms of expression signals a broader reconfiguration of scientific communication, in which clarity and engagement increasingly complement, and in some cases challenge, traditional norms of formality and abstraction.

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