

## Lexical Classification of Compounds in Berom: A Semantic Description of N-V Nominal Compounds

**Authors :** Pam Bitrus Marcus

**Abstract :** Compounds in Berom, a Niger-Congo language that is spoken in parts of central Nigeria, have been understudied, and the semantics of N-V nominal compounds have not been sufficiently delineated. This study describes the lexical classification of compounds in Berom and, specifically, examines the semantics of nominal compounds with N-V constituents. The study relied on a data set of 200 compounds that were drawn from Bere Naha (a newsletter publication in Berom). Contrary to the nominalization process in defining the lexical class of compounds in languages, the study revealed that verbal and adjectival classes of compounds are also attested in Berom and N-V nominal compounds have an agentive or locative interpretation that is not solely determined by the meaning of the constituents of the compound but by the context of the usage.

**Keywords :** berom, berom compounds, nominal compound, N-V compounds

**Conference Title :** ICLLL 2023 : International Conference on Languages, Literature and Linguistics

**Conference Location :** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**Conference Dates :** December 04-05, 2023