This volume addresses the relation between finiteness and nominalization, which is far more complex than the simple opposition finite-nonfinite. The contributions analyze finiteness cross-linguistically from both synchronic and diachronic perspectives, focusing on a number of topics that has not been thoroughly explored in the literature. First, the correlation between finiteness and nominalization is also affected by a third factor, information structure. Second, there is a correlation between the continuum of finiteness and the scale from main/independent clauses to dependent clauses. Given that of normalized constructions occur not only in dependent clauses, but also in independent clauses, it is possible to grade according to degree of nominalization, which can then be related to the scale of finiteness. Finally, each of these scales can also be seen as a product the diachronic process of re-finitization and of finitization.


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“This wonderful collection of articles by leading linguists brings together an impressive amount of knowledge on theoretical, typological, and diachronic aspects of the relation between finiteness and nominalization. The contributions discuss a wide range of phenomena and cover a great variety of languages, achieving both breadth and depth: a truly significant contribution and a must-read for anyone interested in finiteness and nominalization.”
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