

REVIEW – COMPOUNDS AND PHRASES IN KUSAAL

This paper addresses a relatively underexplored phenomenon in Kusaal, making a substantial contribution to the field. It is well-written, data-rich, and clearly organized, with a good review of the relevant literature that situates the study within a broader linguistic context. The author(s) attempt to give readers valuable insight into how similar phenomena manifest in other languages.

The distinction between compounds and phrases is particularly significant. By clarifying this boundary, the study helps resolve common misunderstandings between the two concepts in Kusaal and in other languages, which is crucial for advancing both theoretical understanding and practical analysis in this area. The authors strengthen their argument by providing concrete examples to support each criterion used to differentiate compounds from phrases, and their application of multiple criteria further enhances the study's credibility and depth.

While the paper is robust, there are a few minor issues as flagged in the document that need clarification and correction. In terms of Data presentation, the author(s) have not indicated tone though Kusaal is a tone language. I am guessing it's because they are using orthography, right? Beyond these, however, this is a promising and valuable study that makes a significant contribution to descriptive Maba linguistics. I therefore recommend the paper for publication.