

Editorial of JWAL Volume 52, Issue 1

The Editorial Board of the Journal of West African Languages (JWAL) is pleased to present Volume 52, Issue 1. This volume comprises five papers from 9 linguists, covering areas that include semantics, nominalization, ideophone analysis, liminal studies, and beyond.

The lead paper is co-authored by Perpetual Usembo and Constantine Yuka, both of the University of Benin, Nigeria. Titled *Evaluatives in the Edo Language*, Usembo and Yuka provide new insights on the range of evaluatives in the Edo language, proposing that there are four ranges: diminution, augmentation, intensification, and approximation.

The second paper is by Pius Akumbu of the Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Paris, France and Florian Lionnet of Princeton University, USA. Under the title, *The Liminal System of Babanki*, the authors argue for a more prominent treatment of liminal signs, which they describe as “non-word sounds with a communicative function”, in natural language grammars. The paper proposes three semantico-pragmatic functions for liminal signs in Babanki, namely phatic, conative and expressive functions.

The third paper is authored by Levina Nyameye Abunya, Obed Nii Broohm, both of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana, and Clement Kwamina Insaideo Appah of the University of Ghana, Accra, Ghana. Under the title, *Lexical Nominalization in Kaakye*, the authors provide a descriptive account of nominalization, a grammatical process by which some nouns are formed from verbs and adjectives, among others. In Kaakye, the resulting nominals, according to the findings of the paper, may be put into two groups: action nominals and participant nominals.

Titled *Ideophones in Sisaali*, Irene Basimaga Dumah of the University of Education, Winneba, Ghana, in the fourth paper, argues for seeing ideophones as a word class in Sisaali, based on their unique phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic features.

The fifth and final paper is by Emmanuel Dogbey, also of the University of Education, Winneba, Ghana. In his paper titled *The Concept of Cover and Cover*

Terms in Ewe, the author outlines ways in which speakers express cover terms in the language.

I wish to thank the reviewers of these five articles as well as those of articles that did not make it into this volume. I also wish to thank our authors, readers, and the general West African linguistic community for their enthusiastic interest in JWAL. We continue to attract a keen readership and quite healthy submission rates. Finally, I thank the editorial board members, especially our able Associate Editors, Dr Hasiyatu Abubakari and Prof Samuel Issah, and our Assistant Editor, Dr Alexander Angsongna.

Adams Bodomo

Editor, JWAL