

On discourse-based transcategoriality

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ABSTRACT

The term "transcategoriality" refers to a structure where one and the same kind of linguistic expression is used simultaneously on two different planes of linguistic organization (cf. Robert 2003; 2004) based on some regular pattern. A "regular pattern" can be defined language-internally or crosslinguistically, but preferably as involving both. The two planes may of involve either the morphosyntactic categorization of a language or, as we wish to highlight in this paper, the structure of linguistic discourse beyond the sentence (see also Do-Hurinville and Hancil 2015; Heine and Kaltenböck 2015). The concern of the paper is typological-comparative, the main question looked into is how transcategoriality can arise and how its genesis affects the way it patterns in a given language.