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	Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgements -- Contents -- Part I. Towards a theoretical-descriptive approach to nominalization -- Chapter 1. Introduction -- Chapter 2. Theoretical assumptions -- Chapter 3. Nominalization -- Chapter 4. The functional organization of nominal and clause -- Part II. Deverbal -er nominalization -- Chapter 5. Deverbal -er suffixation: Towards a descriptive position -- Chapter 6. The middle construction -- Chapter 7. A multifunctional approach to -er nominalization -- Part III. Factive nominalization -- Chapter 8. Factive nominalization: Towards a descriptive position -- Chapter 9. A functional analysis of factive nominalizations as nominal constructions -- Chapter 10. Conclusion -- Appendix -- Notes -- References -- Index -- Backmatter
	Sommario/riassunto	The book presents a systematic theoretical account of the fundamental constructional mechanisms that underlie deverbal nominalization in general, and it makes an original descriptive contribution by discussing a number of nominalization systems in detail. The main theoretical motif is that nominalization strongly calls for a functional rather than purely structural approach. The book goes more deeply into a number

of functional constructs needed to model nominalization (drawn from Cognitive Grammar and Systemic-Functional Grammar) and it elaborates on the internal functional organization of nominal and clausal structure [e.g. the notions of type specification, instantiation and grounding (Langacker 1991) are discussed in detail and shown to be crucial for the analysis of deverbal nominalization]. It is argued that deverbal nominalizations are basically re-classifications of verbal predicates into nominal constructions. This re-classification either applies at word rank or it involves the rank shift (Halliday 1966) of a clause-like unit, with its internal structure preserved (e.g. signing the contract quickly). The re-classified unit then adopts a specific nominal strategy, with some form of nominal determination and quantification (e.g. her signing the contract quickly). The descriptive part of the book zooms in on nominalizations that are derived at word rank (deverbal -er nominals) and on nominalizations applying to 'a temporal clausal heads' (e.g. John's playing the piano) and finite clauses. Of the gerundive and finite types of nominalization, those that function in factive contexts are focused on. In the analysis of deverbal -er nominals a case is made for a 'subject' analysis of the system and an elaborate discussion of the clausal middle construction (e.g. this book reads easily) - which is argued to show systematic resemblances with non-agentive -er nominals - is included. Of the remaining nominalization types (John's playing the piano; playing the piano; the fact that he plays the piano; that he plays the piano), especially the nominal behaviour (e.g. proper name vs. common noun strategy) and (in the case of gerundive nominals) the various structural and semantic subtypes that can be distinguished among them are discussed.