



Abstract Nouns



Suffixes.

- 1) °त्वम् (forms a *neuter* noun): e.g. नीलत्वम्
- 2) °ता (forms a *feminine* noun): e.g. नीलता
- 3) °यम् [with *vṛddhiḥ* of the initial syllable of the base] (forms a *neuter* noun): e.g. नैल्यम्

Compounds.



Abstract suffixes are very often attached to compounds. Note that *tatpuruṣas* and *bahuvrīhis*, which are often indistinguishable, can yield *opposite* meanings, so you must think about which meaning is intended in the context.

तस्य शास्त्रयोनित्वात्
“Because it (*tasya*) is *the source of the Vedas*” (शास्त्रयोनिः = *karmadhārayaḥ*)

“Because they (*ḅṣām*) are *those of which the content is different*” = “Because their content is different” (भिन्नविषयः = *bahuvrīhiḥ*)

एषां भिन्नविषयत्वात्

Usage.

Abstract formations often express *predication* with an accompanying genitive, e.g., गगनस्य नीलत्वम् “blueness of the sky”

They should be translated as such, *rather than using English abstract nouns*:

गगनस्य नीलत्वम् = “the sky is blue”

When expressing *predication relationships* as *noun phrases*:

- ✿ The ablative can express a *reason*:
गगनस्य नीलत्वात् “because the sky is blue”
- ✿ The locative can express a *condition*:
गगनस्य नीलत्वे “since the sky is blue”
- ✿ The locative with अपि can express a *concession*:
गगनस्य नीलत्वेऽपि “even though the sky is blue”