Nominalization in the Chinese-English Press Conference Interpreting

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Drawing upon Fairclough's approach to critical discourse analysis and corpus methodology, this article examines the use of nomination in the Chinese-English press conference interpreting in comparison with the non-translated English texts of the press conference organized by the U.S. government. The investigation reveals that the frequency of nomination is significantly higher in the interpreted texts of Chinese-English press conference interpreting than in the non-translated English texts. It is argued that the observed difference in terms of nominalization can be explained by the differences between Chinese and English, and more importantly, by the interpreters' intention to highlight the authority of the speeches they interpret. The investigation also reveals that the interpreters prefer to adopt nominalization to construct an image of himself or herself as professional and neutral.