In linguistics, nominalization or nominalisation is the use of a word which is not a noun (e.g., a verb, an adjective or an adverb) as a noun, or as the head of a noun phrase, with or without morphological transformation. The term refers, for instance, to the process of producing a noun from another part of speech by adding a derivational affix (e.g., the noun legalization from the verb legalize). Sentence Clarity: Nominalizations and Subject Position. Summary: This resource discusses nominalizations and subject position as they relate to sentence clarity.

Nominalizations are nouns that are created from adjectives (words that describe nouns) or verbs (action words). For example, interference is a nominalization of interferer, decision is a nominalization of decide, and argument is a nominalization of argue.

What's new? Nominalisation. Nominalisation (or nominalization in US English) is when we take verbs or adjectives and turn them into nouns or noun phrases. So in other words, we are transforming actions or events (verbs) or descriptions of nouns and pronouns (adjectives) into things, concepts or people (nouns). This is important for academic writing because it will Nominalizations are a grammar construction that global business writers should try to avoid.

Nominalization itself is an example of a nominalization, but more common examples are words like evaporation, condensation, mechanization, and optimization. As you have probably noticed, they often end in -ation/-tion/-ition. These are the types of words often used in science or in highly specialized fields, and they make it easier for us to talk about our fields of expertise. Although nominalization is essential in academic writing, it can hamper clarity. Check out how to maintain a balance between the two for efficient writing.

Nominalization and Clarity: Ensuring the Right Balance in Academic Writing. Last updated Apr 14, 2021. Although research would significantly benefit from clear and direct writing, it often becomes crucial to adhere to a certain style of writing, in this case academic style, which warrants some stiffness and formal expression.