NOMINALIZATIONS

1. **What is a nominalization?**
   A nominalization is a verb (or adjective) that functions as a noun. For example, as nominalizations, the verbs <u>state</u> and <u>assume</u> become the nouns **statement** and **assumption.** Words that end in -ment, -ion, -ence, -ance, -ity, -ent, -ant, and -ancy are often nominalizations.

2. **Why does it matter?**
   Nominalizations interfere with writing concise and direct sentences by making those sentences unnecessarily wordy. Using a nominalization—i.e., turning a verb into a noun—requires additional verbs and often prepositions and articles. Nominalizations may also lead to passive voice and weak verb choices.

Nominalized Phrase	Concise Revision
gave a report	reported
made a decision	decided
offered a suggestion	suggested
resulted in an increase	increased
led to the destruction of	destroyed

   <u>Examples</u>**:**
   - **Nominalization:** The court provided analysis on the issue and offered its conclusion that the defendant was guilty.
   - **Better:** The court analyzed the issue and concluded the defendant was guilty.

   - **Nominalization:** The **usage** of the property by the defendants was for the **storage** of the stolen jewelry and murder weapons.
   - **Better:** The defendant **stored** the jewelry and murder weapons on the property.

   - **Nominalization:** An **agreement** was made by the parties to reach a plea deal by Monday.
   - **Better:** The parties **agreed** to reach a plea deal by Monday.

3. **Sometimes, nominalizations can be useful**

   - When you are making a general statement that focuses more on the idea than the actual actors in the sentence.
     o Example: The **distribution** of the pizzas was fair.

   ** Remember that, even in a case where a nominalization is appropriate, you should not overuse them in any portion of your text ******