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### EDISI XXXII JULI 2016

	P. Tri Anu	ng S
Penerapan Komun	ikasi Karyawan Di Konveksi Readers Wedi Klaten	
	Agnes Erna V	Vant
Improving Secretar Learning	ry Students' Speaking Competence through Cooperative Proje	ct-I
	Kristin	a W
<b>English Complex N</b>	Joun Phrases: A Study of Nominalization in English Scientific	Гех
	Yohane	
Revitalisasi Fungsi Tinggi	Kantor Sebagai Pusat Informasi : Kajian Implementasi di Pe	rgu
- 66	T. 7	D
	Lukas	
	Lukas if Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K	
Komunikasi Efekti		epu
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor	f Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K	epu
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor	if Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K Parij gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus	epu
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor Pembangunan Pen	if Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K Parij gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus	epu
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor Pembangunan Pen	f Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K  Parija  gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus  Yuli	epu
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor Pembangunan Pen Peran Profesionalis	f Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K  Parija gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus Yuli sme Guru Dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidikan	epu o He
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor Pembangunan Pen Peran Profesionalis	if Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K  Pariji gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus  Yuli sme Guru Dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidikan  deritaan: Tinjauan Filosofis dan Teologis	epu o H
Komunikasi Efekti Pimpinan Kantor Pembangunan Pen Peran Profesionalis Kejahatan dan Pen	f Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis Pengambilan K  Parija gelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus Yuli sme Guru Dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidikan	epu o Ho us I



### **Jurnal Ilmiah Sosial**

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Puji syukur kami haturkan kepada Tuhan yang Mahakasih dan berkenan melimpahkan berkat dan anugerah-Nya sehingga kami dapat memroses penerbitan Jurnal Ilmiah Sosial **Caritas Pro Serviam** Edisi XXXII Juli 2016 ini hingga selesai. Terima kasih kami sampaikan kepada para penulis yang telah mengirimkan karya ilmiah untuk penerbitan ini dan memperbaikinya kembali sesuai catatan editor. Terima kasih pula kepada para editor yang berkenan membaca dan memberi catatan perbaikan untuk penyempurnaan setiap tulisan.

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Pemikiran kecil atas berbagai masalah sosial ini kiranya dapat menjadi nyala lilin yang bermanfaat sebagai alat penerang pula. Semoga.

Salam,

Redaksi CPS

### **DAFTAR ISI**

### Salam Redaksi **Daftar Isi** Motivasi Berprestasi Mahasiswa Tingkat Pertama Program Studi 1 Sekretari ASMI Santa MariaYogyakarta P. Tri Anung Sutanto Penerapan Komunikasi Karyawan di Konveksi Readers Wedi Klaten 14 Agnes Erna Wantyastuti **Improving Secretary Students' Speaking Competence Through** 29 **Cooperative Project-Based Learning** Kristina Wasiyati **English Complex Noun Phrases: A Study Of Nominalization In English** 43 **Scientific Text** Yohanes Maryono Revitalisasi Fungsi Kantor sebagai Pusat Informasi : Kajian Implementasi 55 di Perguruan Tinggi Lukas Dwiantara Komunikasi Efektif Sekretaris Pimpinan dalam Peran Strategis 78 Pengambilan Keputusan Pimpinan Kantor Parijo Henricus Pembangunan Pengelolaan Komunikasi Internal Kampus 96 Yulius Pribadi Peran Profesionalisme Guru dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidikan 113 Sekolah Sutrisno Kejahatan dan Penderitaan: Tinjauan Filosofis dan Teologis 126 Paulus Glorie Pamungkas

Strategi Integrasi Nasional dalam Masyarakat Majemuk

Mateus Susanto

139

## ENGLISH COMPLEX NOUN PHRASES: A STUDY OF NOMINALIZATION IN ENGLISH SCIENTIFIC TEXT

Yohanes Maryono

#### Intisari

Paper ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan dan menunjukkan bahwa nominalisasi, yakni pembentukan frasa nominal kompleks yang diturunkan secara gramatikal dari struktur bahasa yang lebih tinggi (klausa/kalimat), merupakan fenomena gramatikal kebahasaan yang umum terjadi pada semua bahasa terutama pada teks-teks yang bersifat ilmiah dan akademik. Berdasarkan jenisnya, nominalisasi dapat dikelompokkan berdasarkan kehadiran unsur argumen kalimat/klausa sumber yaitu subjek, objek, dan verba yang merupakan unsur pokok untuk proses nominalisasi. Dari pengamatan pada teks-teks ilmiah dan akademik diperoleh gambaran bahwa nominalisasi bertipe subjektif (Subjective Nom NP), objectif (Objective NP) sangat mendominasi, di samping juga nominalisasi bertipe Zero-Modifier.

**Kata kunci**: complex noun phrase (frasa benda kompleks), nominalization (nominalisasi), scientific/academic text (teks ilmiah/akademik).

#### A. Introduction

Noun phrases (NP) play important roles in English sentences. They typically function as elements of a sentence: subject, object, and complement (Quirk, 1972). Stucturally, they can be simple in their structure, consisting of a subject-pronoun *she* and *my sister* as the nominal predicate as in *She is my sister*. Meanwhile, when the heads have already been modified by either a premodifier or a postmodifier or both of them, they may be called complex noun phrases as in *The pretty girls who is standing* 

in the corner is my sister. The subject NP in the sentence consists of a premodifier (an adjective), a head, and a postmodifier (relative clause). Such NP is familiar to us where the head (girls) is a common noun, the premodifier (pretty) is a 'common' adjective, and a postmodifying relative clause (who is standing in the corner). Among the various kinds of NPs in English, certain types of complex NPs that are composed of heads (verbal premodifiers nouns). (nominal. adjectives, or nouns), or postmodifier (prepositional phrases) are frequently

found. The following are examples of NPs that can be found in a scientific text:

- (1) a. the observation
  - b. this study
- (2) a. preamplifier application
  - b. electrooptical application
  - c. the application of an optical amplifier
- (3) a. spectrum analizer
  - c. the analysis of the number of elements
- (4) a. soliton existence
  - b. the existance of soliton

The head of each NP in the above examples is a noun that corresponds to its verb (observationobserve, study-study, applicationapply, analyzer-analysis-analyze, and existence-exist). Quirk calls the nouns that corresponding to their verb as verbal nouns. The above examples show that each verbal-noun head is modified by (a) modifier(s) in the form of a determiner (the, this) as in (1), of a noun as in (2a), (3a), (4a), and nominal adjective as in (2b) which functions as premodifier and prepositional phrase which functions as postmodifiers as in (2c), (3b), and (4b).

In generative grammar, such NPs are considered as the result of applying nominalization transformation, i.e., the derivation of a noun phrase from an underlying clause/sentence (Crystal, 1985). Thus the mentioned NPs are simply resulted

from the following underlying stuctures:

- (5)a. ## X observe Y##
  - b. ## X study Y ##
- (6)a. ## X apply preamplifier ##
  - b. ## X apply electrooptic ##
  - c.## X apply an optical amplifier ##
- (7)a. ## X analize spectrum ##
  - b. ## X analyze number of elements ##
- (8)a. ## Soliton exist ##
  - b. ## Soliton exist ##

### **B.** Limits of Study

- This study is limited to find Complex Noun Phrases derived by means of deverbal nominalization. Thus, de-adjectival nominalization is excluded from the discussion.
- 2. Data samples of Nominalization NPs (Nom NPs) are taken from five English Scientific/Academic Texts:
  - a. Emerging Infectious Diseases
  - b. Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors in Relation to Smoking Behaviour and History
  - c. Photonic Technology Letters
  - d. A Study on Academic Achievement and Personality of Secondary School Students
  - e. Existence and Stability of Solitons for The Nonlinear Schrodinger Equation on Hyperbolic Space

### C. Research Method

This study aims at investtigating complex noun phrases derived by means of nominalization in

scientific/academic text entitled "Photonic Technology Letters (PTL)", "Cardiovascular Disease Disease Risk Factors in Relation to Smoking Behaviour and History (CDRF)", Infectious "Emerging Diseases (EID)" and "A Study on Academic Achievement and **Personality** Secondary School Students" (SAA). For the purpose of explanation, some other data are also taken from some grammar books to show some types of nominalization which are absent in the academic text during the observation.

Data are investigated by analyzing sentences to identify the existence of complex noun phrases which are suspected to be resulted from verbal nominalization process. Data of adjectival nominalizations are out of discussion. The data obtained are then analyzed according to the possible syntactic source (clauses/sentences) of the NP elements: the head (de-verbal nominalization) and its existing modifiers (subjective modifier and/or objective modifier).

### D. Theory Background1. Concept of Nominalization

David Crystal (1985) proposes two typical definitions of Nominalization. The first refers to the process of forming a noun from another wordclass by adding *noun suffixes* at the base word. Adjectives like *red* becomes a noun *redness* and the verbs like *derive* becomes *derivation*. The first pair is called adjective-noun

conversion (*red-redness*) and verbnoun conversion (*derive-derivation*). With regards to classification of nominalization, Halliday (2004) mentions two types of nominalization: verbal nominalization (*press- pressure*) and adjectival nominalization (*hot - heat*). Mouton (2010) refers the first as 'deverbal' nominalization and the later as 'deadjectival' nominalization. According to Hartnett in Vinh (2013), nominalization can be classified into five kinds based on morphological endings:

- (1) called non-zero derived de-verbal nouns (e.g., *to plan plan*)
- (2) gerunds (e.g., to run running),
- (3) adding a suffix to the verb (e.g., to engage engagement),
- (4) nominalization from adjectives (e.g., *beautiful beauty*),
- (5) verb and noun having different meanings (e.g., to birth birthday)

In generative grammar, Crystal (1985) defines Nominalization as the derivation of a noun phrase from an underlying clause/sentence. Based on the syntactic source (underlying clause/sentence), nominalization can be categorized into two, namely, Verbal Nominalization if its syntactic source has a verbal predicate and Adjectival Nominalization if its syntactic clause has an adjectival predicate.

An example of verbal nominalization is an NP of *John's leaving* which is derived from an underlying clause/sentence *John is leaving*. The head *leaving* is lexically derived from

the predicate element (is leaving) of the clause/sentence. The NP is then embeded in It satisfies me (the socalled matrix sentence) and replaces one of its element It, and resulting a complex sentence John's leaving satisfies me. On the other hand, an adjectival nominalization can be found in a complex sentence I was impressed by her civility where her civility is derived from considered as underlying sentence of She was civil. Bloor and Bloor (in Vinh: 2013) notes that nominalization allows such a process, in which a verb turns out to be realised as a noun (head), arguments to be modifiers (premodifier or postmodifier) of its corresponding head. In a further process, the nominalization NP comes to be a participant (embedded) in the matrix sentence.

The process of nominalization can be represented in the following diagram.



DS/US: Deep Structure/Underlying Structure (Sentence/clause)

SS : Surface Structure (NPs/Nom

NPs)

MS : Matrix Sentence

### 2. Types of Nominalizations

Levi (1978) proposes two ways of classifying nominalizations. The first is based on the meaning of the source of the head noun. First, Act Nominalizations contain 'act/agent meaning' as in parental refusal (act of 'parents refusing') and dream analysis (act of 'analyzing dream'). **Nominalizations** Second. Product represent nouns as the results of a specific actions/event, such as clerical errors ('those which are produced by the act of clerks erring') and musical critique (that which is produced/ resulted from the act of criticizing music). Third, Agent Nominalizations which refer to 'actor or doer' as in city planner (X such that X plans city) and financial analysis (X such that X analyze finance). Forth, Patient Nominalizations refer in some sense to the 'product' of a certain act, but they must sistematically be distinguished from Product Nominalizations on the fundamental semantic grounds such as presidential appointee (Y such that presidents appoint Y) and college employee (Y such that college employs Y).

The second classification is based on the categories determined by the sources of the prenominal modifiers. Levi (1978) Nom NPs may be classified according to the syntactic source of their prenominal modifier(s). the prenominal modifiers are those which are derived from the subjet and direct object of the nominalised verb. Thus, Nom NPs can be classified into three major categories, namely Subjective Nom NPs, Objective Nom NPs, and Multi-modifier Nom NPs.

A Subjective Nom NP is an NP whose prenominal modifier is derived from the underlying subject of the nominalized verb. Based on the distribution of the nominal modifiers, there are two types of Nom NPs, i.e., SV type such as parental refusal, royal order, and cellular decomposition, and VS type such as the shooting of the hunters and arrival of the train.

An Objective Nom NP is an NP whose head is modified by a nominal modifier derived from the underlying direct object of the nominalized verb. Objective Nom NPs are subclassified into two types, i.e., VO type and OV type. In an Objective Nom NP of VO type, the object of the nominalized verb is placed after the head (nominalized verb), such as destruction of the city, monitoring of hearts, and control of vehicles. On the contrary, in an Objective Nom of OV type, the direct object is placed in front of the nominalized verb, such as the rural (city's) destruction and city planner.

Multi-Modifier Non NPs are NPs whose heads (nominalized verb) is modified by nominal modifiers which are derived from both subject and object of the nominalized verb. According to the distribution of the modifiers, Nom NPs are subclassified into five types, namely SVO, SOV, OVS, VOS, and VSO. The examples of each NP can be seen as follows.

**Types** Nominal NPs SVO John's criticism of the book, students evaluation of the course, industrial pollution of water SOV Students' course evaluation, parental child abuse, city land acquisition OVS Industial investigation by/ of senators, water pollution by industry VOS Evaluation of courses by students, the destruction of the city by the enemy VSO Pollution by industry of

### 3. Nominalization and Scientific/ Academic Discourse

water

According to Halliday and Martin (in Vinh: 2013), scientific discourse demands high degree of nominalization for two main reasons, namely, the structure of scientific argument and the structure of scientific knowledge. Nominalization allows a process (verb or event) to be transformed into a more abstract phenomenon (noun). They suggest the following example.

The weather is constantly changing, but it's changes have a definite pattern.

The clause of 'it's changes have a definite pattern' contains a nominalization of 'it's changes' which is syntactically transformed

from a clause of 'the weather is constantly changing'. The further process is embedding the nominalization and replacing the argument 'they' of the clause of "They have a definite pattern", yielding Its changes have a definite pattern.

In addition, Halliday and Martin argue that nominalization is the most powerful device to enable an information to be dense. 'Conciseness' is one of scientific discourse. To support this statement they quote the following pairs of sentential structure and its corresponding nominalization.

<u>Sentential</u>	<b>Nominalization</b>		
structure			
Is impaired	alcohol		
by alcohol	impairment		
They allocate	the allocation of		
an extra	an extra packer		
packer			
Technology	advances in		
is getting	technology		
better			

Halliday and Martin (1993) state that in science, nominalization is strongly associated with definitions that function to accumulate meanings so that a technical term can be defined. In other word, nominalization allows new concepts with multiple meanings to be expressed in a concise way.

### **E.** Discussion of Findings

This study focuses on investigating Nom NPs by using the third

Levi's classification of nominalizations. Henceforth, all data are classified according to the syntactic source of its modifier(s), Nominalization can be classified into three major types: Subjective Nom NP, Objective Nom NP, Multi-modifier Nom NP, and Zero-modifier Nom NP. According to the distribution of its modifier(s) each type can be subgrouped into, respectively:

- 1. Subjective Nom NPs: SV type and VS type
- 2. Objective Nom NPs: VO type and OV type
- 3. Multi-modifier Nom NPs : SVO type, SOV type, OVS type, VOS type, and VSO type
- 4. Zero-modifier Nom NP: V type

### 4. Subjective Nom NPs

Subjective Nom NPs are NPs of which head (nominalized verb) is modified by a nominal modifier derived from the Subject (argument) of the verb. According to the distribution of the nominal modifier, they are subgrouped into SV type where the subject argument appears as a premodifier of the nominalized verb and VS type where the subject argument appears as a postmodifier.

### a. Nom SV Type

A Nom NP of SV type is composed of a premodifier and a head noun (nominalized verb). The premodifier which is derived from the subject argument may take the form

of genitive noun (*king's*), de-adjectival noun (*royal*, *avian*), or noun (*cell*, *bird*).

- (1) His useful discussion
- ## He DISCUSS Y ## (where His (posessive nominal) functions as a subject and DISCUSS is a verb)
- (2) Our application
- ## We APPLY Y ## (where We a subject and APPLY is a verb)
- (3) his helpful comment
- ## He COMMENT ## (where He is an agent that functions as subject and COMMENT is a verb)
- (4) (the) frequency behaviour
- ## Frequency BEHAVE## (where frequency is an agent that that functions as subject and BEHAVE is a verb)
- (5)soliton existence
  ##Soliton EXIST## (where Soliton is
  the subject of the verb EXIST)

The head *discussion*, *application*, *comment* and *behaviour* are nominalization forms of the verbs of the underlying structures (sentence). The premodifiers *his*, *our*, and *frequency* are subjects of the verbs. Some premodifiers may appear in the form of genitive (*our* and *his*) or noun (*frequency*).

### b. Nom VS Type

A subjective Nom NP of VS type is composed of a head noun (nominalized verb) and postnominal modifier which is derived from the underlying subject. The post nominal

- modifier takes the form of a prepositional phrase.
- (1) thickening of the arterial wall and intima media
- ## The arterial wall and intima media THICKEN## where The arterial wall and intima media is the subject of the verb THINKEN.
- (2) the influence of DX factors
- ## DX factors INFLUENCE Y ##

  (where DX factors is the subject of the verb INFLUENCE and Y is unspecified object)
- (3)the circulation of influenza D virus ## Influenza D Virus CIRCULATE## (where Influenza D virus is the subject of the verb CIRCULATE)
- (4)the existence of solitons
  ## Solitons EXIST ## (where Solitons
  is the subject of the verb EXIST)

The subject case marker of can commonly be replaced by the subject case marker by if the nominalization is derived from a transitive verb. Thus the influence of DX factors may take the form of the influence by DX factors. The use of preposition by instead of of as a subject case marker is useful to avoid an ambiguity. Let's take another example of Nom NP the shooting of the hunters. This nominal ambiguous since it can interpreted as either the hunters SHOT Y (where Y is the object of SHOT) or X SHOT the hunters (where X is the Subject/agent of SHOT).

### 5. Objective Nom NP

Objective Nom NPs are NPs of which head (nominalized verb) is modified by a nominal modifier derived from the underlying direct object. According to the distribution of the modifier, they can be grouped into OV (Object-Verb) Type and VO (Verb-Object) Type.

### a. VO Type

Nom NPs of VO type take nominalized verb as the head and a postmodifier which is derived from the underlying direct object and enters into a structure of a prepositional phrase (of-phrase).

- (1) analysis of covariance,
- ## X ANALYZE covariance## (where
  X is unspecified agent (subject) and
  covariance is the direct object of
  the verb ANALYZE)
- (2) limitations of the study
- ## X LIMIT the study ## (where X is unspecified agent (subject) and the study is the direct object of the verb LIMIT)
- (3) Selection of the study sample
- ## X SELECT the study sample ##

  (where X is unspecified agent
  (subject) and the study sample is
  the direct object of the verb LIMIT)
- (4) The interpretation of the word Personality
- ## X INTERPRET the word
  Personality## (where X is
  unspecified agent and the word
  Personality is an object)
- (5) a collection of traits

- ## X COLLECT traits ## (where X is unspecified agent/subject and traits is an object)
- (6) the setting of hyperbolic solitons## X SET hyperbolic solitons##(where X is unspecified agent/subject and hyperbolic solitons is an object)

### b. OV Type

Nominals of OV type place the direct object in front of the nominalized verb as a premodifier. It may appear in the form of genitive, deadjectival noun, and of a noun.

- (1) virus detection ## X DETECT virus## (where X is an unspecified subject /instrument and virus is the direct object of the verb DETECT)
- (2) CVD prevention
  ## X PREVENT CVD ## (where
  X is an unspecified subject and
  CVD 'Cardio-Vascular Disease)
  is the direct object of the verb
  PREVENT).
- (3) data collection ## X COLLECT data ## (where X is an unspecified subject and data is the direct object of the verb COLLECT).
- (4) alcohol consumption ## X CONSUME Alcohol ## (where X is an unspecified subject and alcohol is the direct object of the verb CONSUME).

#### 6. Multi-Modifier Nom NPs

Multi-modifier Nom NPs are composed of a head noun (nominalized verb) and two modifiers which are derived from both underlying subject and direct object of the nominalized verb. The modifiers may take the form of premodifier or postmodifier. According to the distribution of both modifiers, these Nom NP can be grouped into SVO type, SOV type, OVS type, VOS type, and VSO type. During investigation through the text observed, this Multi-Modifier Nom NPs type is not present, but to give clear understanding, some examples taken from several English Grammar Books are presented here.

### a. SVO Type

In an NP of SVO type, the head (nominalized verb) is modified by a premodifier (subject) and post-modifier (direct object). The premodifier can possibly be in the forms of genitive, deadjectival noun, and noun. On the other hand, the postmodifier (object) appears in a prepositional phrase structure. Levi (1978) offers the following examples.

- (1) Students' evaluation of the courses/student evaluation of courses

  ## Students EVALUATE courses ## (where students is an agent that functions as a Subject and courses is a direct object)
- (2) *Industrial pollution of water*

## Industries POLLUTE water ## (where Industries is an agent that functions as a subject and water is a direct object)

### b. SOV Type

A multi-Modifier Nom NP of SOV type is composed of a prenominal modifier (subject), a post-modifier (object) and a nominalization verb.

- (1) Students' course evaluation
  ## Students EVALUATE courses## (where Students is an
  agent/subject and courses is a
  direct object)
- (2) Industrial water pollution
  ## Industries POLLUTE water
  ## (where Industries is a subject and water is an object)
- (3) City land acquisition
  ## City ACQUIRE land ##
  (where City is a subject and land is an object)

### c. OVS Type

A multi-modifier Nom NPs of OVS type is composed of premodifier (object), a nominalised noun (head) and a post-modifier (subject). The nominal premodifier may appear in the form of a genitive, nominal adjective, and a noun. The postmodifier (subject) appears in a prepositional phrase with a subject marker *by*.

(1) Water pollution by industries
## Water BE POLLUTED by
industries ## (where Water is

- a agent/subject and *courses* is a direct object)
- (2) Industrial water pollution
  ## Industries POLLUTE water
  ## (where Industries is a
  subject and water is an object)
- (3) City land acquisition
  ## City ACQUIRE land ##
  (where City is a subject and land is an object)

### d. VOS Type

Nominalization of VOS type is made up of a head (action/event) and modified by both arguments (subject and object). Sintactically, the presence of both arguments in the NP demands prepositions of *of* for the object argument and *by* for the subject.

- (1) Evaluation of courses by students

  ## Students EVALUATE courses ## (where Students is an agent/subject and courses is a direct object)
- (2) Pollution of water by Industries
  ## Industries POLLUTE water
  ## (where Industries is a subject and water is an object)
- (3) Acquisition of land by City
  ## City ACQUIRE land ##
  (where City is a subject and land is an object)

### e. VSO Type

Nominalizations of VSO type are rarely found since it may arise ambiguity.

- (1) the proof of Joan of the theorem of Pythagoras ## John PROVE the theorem of Pythagoras ## (where John is an agent/subject and the theorem of Pythagoras is a direct object)
- (2) Pollution of industries of water/ Pollution by industries of water (\*)
  ## Industries POLLUTE water ## (where Industries is a subject and water is an object)
  ## Industries of water POLLUTE Y ## (where Industries of water is a subject and Y is an unspecified object##

Example (1) is acceptable as it can only be interpreted of being derived from an underlying sentence/ clause of *John PROVE the theorem of Pythagoras*. On the contrary, example (2) may be misinterpreted of being derived from either *Industries THAT POLLUTE water* or *Industries of Water THAT POLLUTE Y*.

### 7. Zero-Modifier Nominalization

This typical nominalizations can be frequently found in most scientific, academic and even in any type of written text in the forms of concepts and technical terms. The nominalization process annihilates the presence of arguments since only the 'actions' become the focus. In observation, Zero-Modifier Nominalizations usually exist with or without

articles like *the*, *this*, and *adjectives* that may correspond to adverbs of the verbs. Some examples of zero-

modifier Nom NPs can be seen in the following list.

<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Nominalizations</u>	<u>Verbs</u>	<u>Nominalizations</u>
associate	the association	achieve in academic	academic achievement
examine	the examinations.	relate positively	positive relationship
study	this study, the present	define	these definitions
	study		
increase	the increase	(possibly) explain	possible explanations
find	Findings	medicate	Medications
measure	Measurements	analise	the analysis

#### F. Conclusion

From the discussion on nominalization, some conclusions can be drawn as follows.

- 1. In lexical sense, nominalization is a process of deriving a noun from other word classes, namely verbs or adjectives.
- 2. In generative grammar, the term of nominalization refers to the process of deriving a noun phrase from an underlying clause/sentence.
- 3. Theoretically, nominalization derivation which is based on the syntactic underlying sources can be classified into Subjective, Objective, Multimodifier, and Zero-Modifier, but during the observation of four scientific and academic texts, it can be seen that the major types of Nom NPs found are Subjective Nom NP, Objective NP and Zero-Modifer NP.

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