6.3 Nominalisation: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

Riverwood Community News: The Litter-Picking Scheme

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Last month, the parish council announced the introduction of a new litter-picking scheme along the riverside path. The decision followed a series of complaints from local residents about the increasing amount of rubbish left near the water's edge.

Volunteers have reported a noticeable reduction in litter since the scheme began. According to the council's own investigation, over four hundred bags of rubbish have been collected in just six weeks. The organisation of weekly clean-up sessions has also encouraged greater involvement from local schools, and the arrival of new recycling bins along the path has been welcomed by residents.

Despite this early success, some concerns remain. A recent survey revealed continued frustration among dog walkers about the lack of waste bins near the northern entrance. The council has promised the installation of additional bins before the end of the month, alongside a wider expansion of the scheme into neighbouring villages.

Overall, the improvement in the river path's appearance has been widely praised, and the council's commitment to environmental responsibility appears genuine.

1 Look at these nominalised nouns taken from the source text 'Riverwood Community News'. For each one, identify the verb it was formed from.

(a) introduction **(1)**

(b) reduction **(1)**

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(c) investigation **(1)**

(d) involvement **(1)**

(e) expansion **(1)**

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2 In the sentence 'The council's commitment to environmental responsibility appears genuine', which word is a nominalisation of the verb 'commit'?

- [ ] A) council's
- [ ] B) commitment
- [ ] C) environmental
- [ ] D) genuine

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3 Rewrite this sentence using a nominalisation to make it sound more formal, suitable for a report: 'The volunteers organised the event well.'

(2)

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4 Which of these sentences uses a nominalisation as its grammatical subject?

- [ ] A) The team decided quickly.
- [ ] B) The team's decision was quick.
- [ ] C) The team decides quickly.
- [ ] D) Deciding quickly, the team acted.

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5 Define what is meant by 'nominalisation', using ONE example from the source text to support your answer.

(2)

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6 Word bank:

decision	movement	curiosity	removal
discussion	agreement	happiness	disposal

Each noun above was formed by nominalisation. For each one, write the correct suffix family: -tion/-sion, -ment, -ity/-ness, or -al.

(a) decision **(1)**

(b) movement **(1)**

(c) curiosity **(1)**

(d) removal **(1)**

(e) discussion **(1)**

(f) agreement **(1)**

(g) happiness **(1)**

(h) disposal **(1)**

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7 Change each adjective below into its nominalised abstract noun form.

(a) informal **(1)**

(b) popular **(1)**

(c) anxious **(1)**

(d) wide **(1)**

(e) strong **(1)**

(f) difficult **(1)**

8 Which nominalisation correctly completes this sentence? 'The manager announced the ___ of the new policy.'

- ☐ A) implement
- ☐ B) implementation
- ☐ C) implementing
- ☐ D) implemented

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9 Compare these two versions of the same idea:

'The council introduced a new litter-picking scheme.'
'The introduction of a new litter-picking scheme took place last month.'

Explain why a formal report, such as the source text, might prefer the second, nominalised version.

(2)

10 Combine these two simple sentences into ONE more formal sentence, using a nominalisation: 'The government will reduce spending. This may affect services.'

(2)

11 Explain one reason a writer might choose NOT to overuse nominalisation in a piece of writing.

(2)

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12 Identify and correct the error in this sentence: 'The committee's decision of postpone the meeting surprised everyone.'

(2)

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13 Write a short formal report paragraph (approximately 80-100 words) about a new initiative at your school, such as a new library, sports facility or environmental scheme. Your writing must include at least FOUR nominalised nouns formed from verbs or adjectives. Underline each nominalisation you use.

(10)

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Mark scheme · 6.3 Nominalisation: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) introduce — **B1**

(a) Answer: **introduce**

(b) reduce — **B1**

(b) Answer: **reduce**

(c) investigate — **B1**

(c) Answer: **investigate**

(d) involve — **B1**

(d) Answer: **involve**

(e) expand — **B1**

(e) Answer: **expand**

Question 2

B) commitment — **B1**

Answer: **B**

Question 3

the verb 'organised' is correctly nominalised as 'organisation' — **B1**

resulting sentence is grammatically complete and correctly formed, cao — **B1**

Answer: **The organisation of the event by the volunteers was excellent.**

Question 4

B) The team's decision was quick. — **B1**

Answer: **B**

Question 5

gives an accurate definition, e.g. nominalisation is the process of turning a verb or adjective into a noun, often by adding a suffix such as -tion, -sion, -ment, -ity or -ness — **B1**

supports the definition with a valid example from the source text and correctly names its base word, e.g. 'reduction' formed from the verb 'reduce' — **B1**

Answer: **Nominalisation is the process of turning a verb or adjective into a noun, usually by adding a suffix such as -tion, -sion, -ment, -ity or -ness. For example, in the source text 'reduction' is a nominalisation of the verb 'reduce'.**

Question 6

(a) -tion/-sion, cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **-tion/-sion**

(b) -ment, cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **-ment**

(c) -ity/-ness, cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **-ity/-ness**

(d) -al, cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **-al**

(e) -tion/-sion, cao — **B1**

(e) Answer: **-tion/-sion**

(f) -ment, cao — **B1**

(f) Answer: **-ment**

(g) -ity/-ness, cao — **B1**

(g) Answer: **-ity/-ness**

(h) -al, cao — **B1**

(h) Answer: **-al**

Question 7

(a) informality, cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **informality**

(b) popularity, cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **popularity**

(c) anxiety, cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **anxiety**

(d) width, cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **width**

(e) strength, cao — **B1**

(e) Answer: **strength**

(f) difficulty, cao — **B1**

(f) Answer: **difficulty**

Question 8

B) implementation — **B1**

Answer: **B**

Question 9

identifies that nominalisation removes or de-emphasises the person/agent responsible for the action, creating a more objective, impersonal tone — **B1**

develops this with reference to formal/report register, e.g. it sounds more authoritative and focuses the reader's attention on the process or outcome rather than on who did it (oe) — **B1**

Answer: **The nominalised version turns the action into a noun ('the introduction'), which removes the emphasis on who did it and creates a more objective, impersonal tone that suits formal reports; it focuses the reader on the process and its outcome rather than on the council as the agent.**

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Question 10

the verb 'reduce' is correctly nominalised as 'reduction'	**B1**
resulting sentence is grammatically complete and correctly formed, cao	**B1**

Answer: **The government's reduction in spending may affect services.**

Question 11

identifies a valid reason, e.g. too much nominalisation can make writing feel dense, abstract or impersonal, or can hide who is responsible for an action when the reader needs to know	**B1**
develops the reason with reference to effect on the reader, e.g. a reader may find it harder to follow the meaning quickly, or the writing may lose the warmth or directness needed in personal or narrative writing (oe)	**B1**

Answer: **Overusing nominalisation can make writing feel dense and abstract, since strings of noun phrases (such as 'the implementation of the introduction of the reduction') can be harder for a reader to follow quickly; it can also hide who is responsible for an action, which may not suit personal or narrative writing that needs a direct, engaging voice.**

Question 12

identifies that the nominalised noun 'decision' must be followed by 'to' plus the infinitive, not 'of' plus the base verb	**B1**
correct rewrite: The committee's decision to postpone the meeting surprised everyone, cao	**B1**

Answer: **The committee's decision to postpone the meeting surprised everyone.**

Question 13

AO5: Content and organisation (AO5)

Level 1 Simple description of the initiative; little sense of a formal report register or organisation.	**1-2**
Level 2 Some relevant, clear description of the initiative; an attempt at a consistent formal register; ideas are mostly sequenced clearly.	**3-4**
Level 3 Clear, convincing description of the initiative in a consistent, well-judged formal report register; well organised, with a genuine sense of purpose.	**5-6**

AO6: Technical accuracy (nominalisation and formal register) (AO6)

Level 1 Fewer than four nominalised nouns are present, or they are used inaccurately, undermining the formal register.	**1**
Level 2 At least four nominalised nouns are present and mostly accurate, with occasional errors in form or agreement.	**2-3**
Level 3 At least four nominalised nouns are present, clearly marked and used accurately, sustaining a consistently formal, objective register throughout.	**4**

Indicative content:

- Paragraph uses a consistent third-person, formal report register throughout
- At least four nominalised nouns are formed correctly from verbs or adjectives (e.g. introduction, decision, improvement, popularity)
- Nominalised nouns are used with correct subject-verb agreement (most are singular)
- Sentence structures are varied, including at least one sentence with a nominalisation as its subject
- Sense of purpose and objectivity appropriate to a formal report, avoiding an overly personal or chatty tone
- Ideas are logically organised, for example moving from background to outcome to future plans

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