

	English	Japanese
Noun	<u>Monkeys</u> are interesting.	さるは面白い。
Nominalized phrases or clauses	<u>Making a pig a pet</u> is interesting.	ぶたをペットにするのは面白い。
	I watch <u>the bear eating the fish</u> .	くまが魚を食べるのを見る。
	I don't like <u>to come close to tigers</u> .	とらの近くに行くのはいやだ。
	It's frightening <u>that nature is disappearing</u> .	<small>しぜん</small> 自然がなくなっていくのがこわい。

- The nominalizer の can be combined with adjectives and verbs in the same way the pronoun の is combined. That is, use な for the present affirmative form of な-adjectives and nouns + copula verbs. Otherwise, use the plain form of adjectives and verbs before の.
- A nominalized clause is a noun phrase and thus can perform any role that normal noun phrases could perform, including being either subject or direct object. Because nominalized clauses are embedded, they must be marked by が if they serve as the subject of the sentence.

ここからくじらが見えるのがうれしい。

I'm glad we can see whales from here.

ここからくじらが見えるのを知っていましたか。

Did you know we can see whales from here?

- The nominalizer の is used to nominalize concrete actions or events and to express facts directly and immediately as perceived. For example, 食べる の refers to a specific case of someone eating rather than the general meaning of eating.

この肉は大きすぎて、ぜんぶ全部食べるのは大変だ。

This piece of meat is too big, so it's hard for anyone to eat all of it.

- The nominalizer の is used when the main verb or adjective expresses the speaker's subjective feelings and perceptions, as with words such as 好き, きらい, 面白い, かなしい, and かんじる (to feel). It must be used when the main verb requires a concrete immediate action or expresses 待つ, 見る, 見える, or 聞く.

B. Using the nominalizer こと

Noun phrase				Noun phrase		
	Verb (plain affirmative)	Nominalizer	Particle	Adjective	Noun	
<small>かんきょう</small> 環境を	<small>まも</small> 守る	こと	は	大切な	こと	だ。

Protecting the environment is an important thing.