Data Sheets for Discourse Analysis #4

Team Name: _____

In this exercise, you are asked to analyze stylistic issues related to clarity and conciseness in your assigned article.

The goal is to generate some data about how language is used in professional journals in order to increase your awareness. The analysis criteria are outlined below and in the pages that follow.

1. **Noun Strings:** Can you find any lengthy noun strings in the article? Do these noun strings need revision?

2. **Prepositional Phrases:** Can you find any lengthy strings of prepositional phrases (especially ones using "*of*") in the article? Do these need revision?

3. **General Language:** Can you find any instances of general language in the article ("*big/little*," "*good/bad*," "*partly*," "*somewhat*," "*thing*," "*to some degree*," etc.)? Do these need revision?

4. **Nominalizations:** Can you find any nominalizations in the article that would benefit from being changed to a more verbal form?

5. **Talkie Verbs:** Can you find many talkie verbs (“*make*,” “*find*,” “*do*,” “*come*,” “*look*,” etc.) in the article? Are any of them unclear?

6. **Wordy Expressions:** Can you find any wordy expressions (“*due to the fact that*,” “*in a great number of cases*,” “*the reason why is that*,” etc.) in the article? Many or few?