Elliptical Construction

Elliptical sentences or ellipsis is a simplified form of the sentence by combining two sentences into one sentence. Merging is done by removing one element of the same sentence from sentence 1 and sentence 2.

There are 3 forms of ellipsis sentences:

1. **Positive Sentence** (too and so, both, ..and)
   Too and so (= also) be used if the second sentence a positive form.

   *Example:* I am an artist. Terry is an artist.
   - I am an artist and Terry is too.
   - I am an artist and so is Terry.
   - Both I am and Terry are artists.

2. **Negative sentence** (either and neither, either..or.., neither…nor..)
   Either and neither (= not) be used if the second form of negative sentences.

   - Tommy can’t speak Japanese and Suzy can’t either.
   - Tommy can’t speak Japanese and neither can Suzy.
   - Neither Tommy nor Suzy is can’t.
   - Either Tommy or Suzy is can’t.

3. **Opposite sentence** (but)
   But (= but) is used if the second sentence contradicts.

   *Example:* Dora went to London. Justine didn’t go to London.
   - Dora went to London but Justine didn’t.
**PASSIVE**

In passive sentences, the thing receiving the action is the subject of the sentence and the thing doing the action is optionally included near the end of the sentence. You can use the passive form if you think that the thing receiving the action is more important or should be emphasized. You can also use the passive form if you do not know who is doing the action or if you do not want to mention who is doing the action.

[Thing receiving action] + [be] + [past participle of verb] + [by] + [thing doing action]

*Example:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Simple Present</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Active:</em></td>
<td>Rita</td>
<td>writes</td>
<td>a letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Passive:</em></td>
<td>A letter</td>
<td>is written</td>
<td>by Rita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Simple Past</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Active:</em></td>
<td>Rita</td>
<td>wrote</td>
<td>a letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Passive:</em></td>
<td>A letter</td>
<td>was written</td>
<td>by Rita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Present Perfect</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Active:</em></td>
<td>Rita</td>
<td>has written</td>
<td>a letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Passive:</em></td>
<td>A letter</td>
<td>has been written</td>
<td>by Rita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Future</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Active:</em></td>
<td>Rita</td>
<td>will write</td>
<td>a letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Passive:</em></td>
<td>A letter</td>
<td>will be written</td>
<td>by Rita.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Modals</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Active:</em></td>
<td>Rita</td>
<td>can write</td>
<td>a letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Passive:</em></td>
<td>A letter</td>
<td>can be written</td>
<td>by Rita.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXERCISE

STRUCTURE AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

This section is designed to measure your ability to recognize language that is appropriate for standard written English. There are two types of questions in this section, with special direction for each type.

STRUCTURE

**Direction:** These questions are incomplete sentences. Beneath each sentence you will see four words or phrases, marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Choose the one word or phrase that the best complete the sentence.

1. California relies heavily on income from fruit crops, and ____________.
   A. Florida also
   B. Florida too
   C. Florida is as well
   D. so does Florida

2. Florida has not yet ratified the Equal Rights Amendment, and ____________.
   A. several other states hasn't either
   B. neither has some of the others states
   C. some others states also have not either
   D. neither have several other states

3. They can neither give him a part-time job, _______ as a trainee in their company.
   A. and also not accept him
   B. nor accept him
   C. they cannot accept him
   D. but also not accept him

4. I think that my mother will be interested in reading this novel, but _____
   A. So will my father
   B. So does my father
   C. my father won’t
   D. my father is not

5. His shop was burnt down ____ his car that was parked nearby.
   A. and so was
   B. and either did
   C. also was
   D. but neither was

6. _____ discussed by the board of directors when it was proposed again by the supervisors.
   A. The problem had already
   B. The problem is already
   C. The problem had already been
   D. The problem has already

7. Much of the carnage of elephants, giraffes, and big cats _____ uncaring hunters.
   A. must commit by
   B. must be commited
   C. must have commited
   D. must have been commited by
8. The X-ray treatments _____ up to the time that he was dismissed from the hospital.
   A. gave daily       C. basically have given
   B. were given daily D. daily had been given

9. He _____ by a bus as he was crossing the road.
   A. was being run over B. was ran over  C. was run over   D. was running over

10. Most of the land in the area _____ by property developers.
    A. has been bought up       C. have been bought up
    B. has be bought up         D. has been being bought up

---

**WRITTEN EXPRESSION**

**Direction:** In these questions, each sentence has four underlined words or phrases. The four underlined parts of the sentence are marked (A), (B), (C), and (D). Identify the one underlined word or phrase that must be changed in order for the sentence to be correct.

11. This table is not sturdy enough to support a television, and that one probably isn't neither.
    A. not sturdy enough       B. support        C. one probably isn't     D. neither

12. The report could not be turned in on time because all the needed work lost.
    A. could not be           B. turned in on time because all the needed work lost.
    C. needed work lost       D.

13. You can apply for a scholarship to the British embassy neither at the beginning or at the end.
    A. apply for             B. to the British embassy neither at the beginning or at the end.
    C. a scholarship         D.

14. The classification of a dinosaur as either saurischian nor ornithischian depends on the structure of the hip.
    A. depends on            B. the structure of the hip.
    C. nor ornithischian     D.

15. The Sony camcorder demo was fun and impressive, but is not as better as Microsoft’s.
    A. was fun and impressive, but is not as better as Microsoft’s.
    B. Microsoft’s.

16. Conservative philosophers argue that the very structure of society is threatening by civil disobedience, while humanists stress the primacy of the individual conscience.
    A. argue that the very structure of society is threatening by civil disobedience, while humanists stress the primacy of the individual conscience.
    B. A
    C. B
    D.

17. Gulls can often be see swooping over large bodies of water.
    A. can often be see swooping over large bodies of water.
    B. C
    D. D
18. The bridge **was hitting** by a large ship **during** a sudden storm **last** week.

A   B   C   D

19. Scientists at **universities** are **often** more **involved** in theoretical research than in practical research.

A   B   C   D

20. He **was not able to define** the process **by which** the body **had protected** by the immunologic system.

A   B   C   D