

When you want to communicate clearly, it can be helpful to avoid repetition. One way to do this is to drop any unnecessary words.

-  **New language** Ellipsis
-  **Vocabulary** Entertainment
-  **New skill** Leaving out unnecessary words

## 62.1 KEY LANGUAGE ELLIPSIS

If the meaning of a sentence is clear from the surrounding text, you can use ellipsis (leaving out certain words) to avoid repetition. This is most common after "and," "but," and "or." Sometimes you can drop a repeated verb in a different form.

He bought tickets, **but** [he] didn't go. 

Often a repeated subject is dropped after "and," "but," and "or."



She loved the original and [she loved] the sequel.

If the meaning remains clear, a repeated subject and verb can be dropped.



I'm happy to go out **or** [I'm happy to] stay home.

Generally, you can omit words that have already been mentioned and do not require repetition.



## 62.2 FILL IN THE GAPS WITH THE REPEATED WORDS THAT HAVE BEEN DROPPED

I told him I would book the tickets, but I haven't [ booked the tickets ] yet.

- ① They wanted to see the band perform live, but now they can't [ \_\_\_\_\_ ].
- ② He was fantastic in the television series and [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] the movie adaptation.
- ③ If you want to see a movie, we could go to the multiplex or [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] the art house.
- ④ The reviews said that the acting was bad and [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] the soundtrack was terrible.
- ⑤ The two lead actors did all the stunts and [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] sang all the songs themselves.
- ⑥ I am quitting my job this week. I will call you later to explain why [ \_\_\_\_\_ ].





## 62.3 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

Marine Blue was directed by Fay Little.

True  False

1 The reviewer thinks the film will be a success.

True  False

2 The plot in the film was unusual and exciting to follow.

True  False

3 The special effects in *Marine Blue* were not very good.

True  False

4 The plot of *Death Reviewed* was not very exciting.

True  False

5 *Death Reviewed* was emotional and extremely moving.

True  False

## CULTURE VULTURE

# THIS WEEK'S NEW OPENINGS

Find out what to see (and what to avoid) this week.

The new film starring Fay Little will surely be another box office hit for director Lee Jones. Thriller *Marine Blue* is released on Thursday and brings back characters Max and Alice.



The plot was original and surprising, although some elements may prove highly controversial. *Marine Blue* was heavily subsidized, but the money was incredibly well spent as the visual effects and soundtrack are stunning. A must see!

The new play *Death Reviewed* is supposed to be a tragedy. It is just tragic. Terrible acting, painfully slow dialogue, and a completely predictable plot make it a disaster. The play did leave me deeply moved, but only because the ticket prices were so astronomically high! Bitterly disappointed.

## Aa 62.4 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE WORDS IN THE PANEL TO COMPLETE THE COLLOCATIONS FROM 62.3



The film was very dull and the plot was **painfully slow**.



I knew that the family would turn out to be aliens. It was **completely** .



I was so **deeply** by the sad scenes that I cried for hours!



We loved the last film, but were **bitterly** by this one.



We waited too long! The ticket prices are now **astronomically** .



The plot is shocking and the theme is **controversial** .



The government helped pay for the film. It was **subsidized** .

predictable

moved

slow

heavily

highly

high

disappointed





## 62.5 CROSS OUT THE WORDS THAT CAN BE LEFT OUT OF EACH SENTENCE

He might have been in the original film or ~~he might have been~~ in the remake.



1 I was planning to buy tickets for the show, but now I can't buy tickets for the show.



2 The film had great special effects and the film had a wonderful soundtrack.



3 He was chosen for the orchestra and he played brilliantly.



4 This evening I'm going to have dinner and then I'm going to watch a play.



5 They said that they would come to the launch party, but they haven't come to the launch party.



6 They should join in or they should not bother coming.



## 62.6 MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES TO THE CORRECT ENDINGS

He has always made thrillers and

doesn't have very good acoustics.

1 The actors were good, but

ends just after midnight.

2 The performance starts at 8 and

full of young children!

3 You could buy a season ticket or

he always will.

4 The building is beautiful, but

very satisfied with the performance.

5 The cast are all exhausted, but

sign up for membership.

6 The audience was very loud and

seemed uncomfortable on screen.



## 62.7 KEY LANGUAGE CONVERSATIONAL ELLIPSIS

You can also leave words out of sentences that don't include "and," "but," and "or" if the meaning can be understood from the context. This kind of ellipsis does not have strict rules, and is very common in informal everyday speech, particularly when giving replies.

What time does the movie start?



Eight.

[It starts at eight o'clock.]

What kind of popcorn would you like?



Salted, please.

[I would like salted popcorn, please.]

What did you think of the film?



Complete nonsense.

[I thought the film was complete nonsense.]



## 62.8 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO, THEN NUMBER THE FULL STATEMENTS IN THE ORDER THAT YOU HEAR THEIR SHORT FORMS

- A "Good evening."
- B "No, it's a horror film."
- C "I think that it's better than the book version."
- D "I'd like two seats, please."
- E "Is this film a drama?"
- F "So, what did you think of the film?"
- G "Are you sure about that?"

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### 62 ✓ CHECKLIST

Ellipsis

Entertainment

Leaving out unnecessary words