

ELLIPSIS IN COORDINATE CONSTRUCTIONS
AND
ITS LEARNING PROBLEMS BY INDONESIAN STUDENTS

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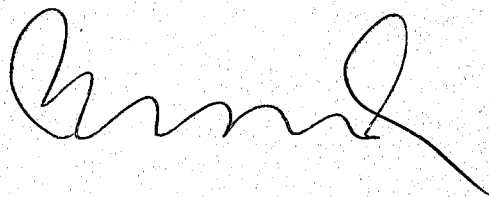
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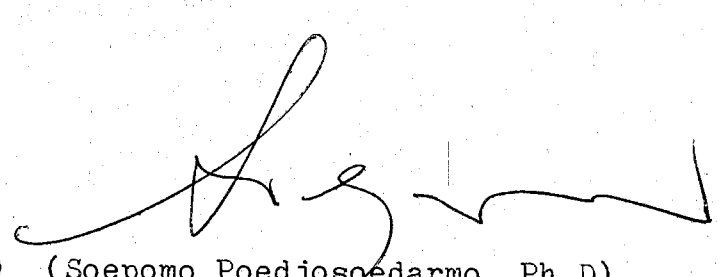
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I N T R O D U C T I O N

When I looked over the compositions of the third year students of the English Department, IKIP Sanata Dharma, I found out that the students tended to use complete coordinations, without any use of ellipsis though the use of ellipsis is possible and more common. This, of course, results in unnatural coordinations, redundant and clumsy. They still find it difficult to use ellipsis in coordinate constructions. It is this fact which encourages me to write a paper on "Ellipsis in Coordinate Constructions and Its Learning Problems by Indonesian Students."

The ideas in this thesis are arranged in a simple way. The nature or characteristics of ellipsis in general are dealt with in the first chapter. In the second chapter we are concerned with "Coordination and Ellipsis" with subheadings as follows:

- A. What is Coordination?
- B. Coordinations Admissable of Ellipsis.
- C. Coordinators Allowing Ellipsis.
- D. Characteristics of Ellipsis in Coordinations.

The third chapter treats of kinds of ellipsis in coordinate constructions. In the next chapter, chapter IV, we are concerned with "Problems of Ellipsis Found by Indonesian Students in Learning English." And at the end of this thesis I present my conclusion including some ways to overcome the problems of ellipsis found by Indonesian students in learning English.

Finally I hope that this thesis will be of much

assistance to teachers of English in teaching ellipsis
in coordinate constructions to Indonesian students.

CHAPTER I

NATURE OF ELLIPSIS

To understand clearly the nature of ellipsis, or in other words the characteristics of ellipsis, some examples of ellipsis will be a help.

From what people have done, we can infer that people always try to do, to achieve, or to finish anything quickly. Also they always try to be more and more comfortable in their lives. Formerly there were no vehicles such as motorbikes, cars, buses, and trains. They just walked or rode horses when they wanted to go to some place. Now people have made motorbikes, cars, buses, airplanes, and still many other kinds of modern vehicles because they want to reach their destinations more quickly and comfortably than before. Even now people have succeeded in inventing supersonic jets. All these facts undoubtedly prove that people never stop trying to have a more comfortable way of living. There are still many other evidences that reveal the psychological urges above.

These psychological urges also appear in human speech. In colloquial speech we often omit a lot of words or parts of words provided that it does not cause any injury to the meaning of what we want to say. Since language is a means of expression or communication, that is to say, a means by which one communicates one's feelings, ideas, and desires, the omission of words or parts of words must have something to do with psychological aspect. The following examples may serve as explana -

tion:

- Dialogue

. John: Where to?

Paul: Swimming pool. Will you come with me?

John: No.

Paul: Why not?

John: Too busy.

. Harso: Ngapa?

Tomy : Belajar.

Harso: Apa?

Tomy : Inggris.

It is quite obvious that a lot of words in the dialogues above have been dropped or ellipted. Yet the meaning conveyed by each speaker is still intelligible or clear. Colloquial speech is certainly more direct or straightforward, expressing only the important words in the mind of the speaker.

- Abbreviation

Abbreviation may also be regarded as involving ellipsis, for the ellipted elements can be supplied by the reader or hearer. Abbreviations may be in the forms of:

. Acronyms

U.N.O. United Nations Organization

B.B.C. British Broadcasting Corporation

N.Y. New York

W.H.O. World Health Organization

etc.

. Shortenings

phone - telephone

exam - examination
 photo - photograph
 flu - influenza
 etc.

. Blends

paratroops - parachute troops
 telecast - television broadcast
 interpol - international police
 newscast - news broadcast

Here are some other examples of omission of words:

- . John took a key out of his pocket, and (John) opened the door.
- . He will accept your proposal if (he is) properly approached.
- . You can (do the work), and (you) should do the work.
- . To err is human, to forgive (is) divine.
- . one (reason) or two reasons.

The words between brackets are the omitted or ellipted words.

The omission of words or parts of words as exemplified above is called ellipsis. It is then clear that people use ellipsis with the purpose of communicating their feelings, ideas, and desires quickly, comfortably, and yet clearly.

Webster's New Practical Dictionary defines ellipsis as "The omission, from an expression, of a word or words clearly implied in sense and essential only

to its grammatical completeness."¹ Randolph Quirk in his book A Grammar of Contemporary English states that ellipsis is not only the omission of a word or words, but also that of "parts of lexical items"² or words.

. He did it 'cause he wanted to.

He says that the apostrophe points to an ellipsis. In his book Historical Outlines of English Syntax, Leon Kellner defines ellipsis as "a kind of compensation for the slowness of speech, a kind of economy in the use of linguistic elements."³

From the examples and definitions above, we can see a fairly complete description of the nature or characteristics of ellipsis:

- Ellipsis is the omission of one or more words, or of parts of words.
- The ellipted elements can easily be supplied by the reader or hearer through linguistic or situational context.
- Ellipsis arises from one's needs to:
 - . avoid unnecessary repetition, or in other words, to avoid being redundant.
 - . avoid being pedantic.
 - . follow the rapid flow of thought, or communicate quickly one's feelings, ideas, and desires.

¹Webster's New Practical Dictionary (Springfield, Mass., 1953).

²6th impression, London, 1976, pp. 548-549.

³London, 1924, p. 20.

- focus the hearer's or reader's attention what one says or writes.
- avoid boring the hearer or reader.

Thus, ellipsis is the omission of words or of parts of words which the hearer or reader may supply.

CHAPTER II

COORDINATION AND ELLIPSIS

We have already seen the nature of ellipsis in general in chapter I. Now in this chapter, we are concerned with "Coordination and Ellipsis" which will be treated under four headings:

- A. What is Coordination?
- B. Coordinations Admissible of Ellipsis.
- C. Coordinators Allowing Ellipsis.
- D. Characteristics of Ellipsis in Coordinations.

A. What is Coordination?

Coordination is a syntactic construction in which there are two or more members connected by a coordinator, one to another. The members may be words, phrases, clauses, sentences, or even paragraphs. And we regard three conjunctions as coordinators: and, or and but.

There are some other conjunctions resembling coordinators: the conjunction for; conjunctive adverbs yet, so, then, furthermore, however, moreover, while, etc.; and correlative conjunctions: both ... and, either ... or, neither ... nor, and not only ... but (also). They resemble coordinators especially in that they connect members of equal value. And yet they cannot be classed as pure coordinators, for they do not have essential characteristics which exist in pure coordinators like and, or and but. The essential characteristics of pure coordinators are:

- . A pure coordinator connects members of equal value.
- . A pure coordinator allows ellipsis, including el-

lipsis of subject.

- . A pure coordinator cannot be preceded by another conjunction.

B. Coordinations Admissible of Ellipsis

It is quite clear that ellipsis never happens in coordinations whose members contain only one word. And also it is logically impossible for ellipsis to take place in coordinations of sentences or of paragraphs. To be clearer, ellipsis must not take place in one sentence or paragraph with the realized elements in the other sentence or paragraph because every sentence or paragraph has its own full meaning, or stands by itself. The only coordinations admissible of ellipsis are those of phrases and of clauses. Ellipsis in phrase coordinations and that in clause coordinations will be discussed in detail in chapter III.

C. Coordinators Allowing Ellipsis

Since there are only two kinds of coordinations which are admissible of ellipsis, namely, phrase coordinations and clause coordinations, we will see first what coordinators allow ellipsis in phrase coordinations, and then what coordinators allow ellipsis in clause coordinations.

1. Coordinators allowing ellipsis in phrase coordinations

The coordinators and, or and but can be used to link phrases.

- . and:

John and Mary

that boy and that girl
by day and by night

• or:

John or Mary
that boy or that girl
by day or by night

• but:

The coordinator "but" commonly occurs between adjectives or adverbs.
very stupid but very diligent
very poor but very honest
very quickly but very carefully

Correlative conjunctions can also be used to link phrases.

• both ... and:

both John and Mary
both that boy and that girl
both at the beginning and at the end

• either ... or:

either John or Mary
either that boy or that girl
either on Sunday or on Monday

• neither ... nor:

neither John nor Mary
neither that boy nor that girl
neither on my desk nor on yours

• not only ... but also:

not only John but also Mary
not only the mother but also the children
not only without food but also without drink

Even though the correlative conjunctions can be used to link phrases, they cannot be classed as pure coordinators. The reason is that the first parts of the correlative conjunctions can be preceded by another conjunction,⁴ e.g.:

Since both John and Mary were absent, nothing could be done.

Since neither John nor Paul can do this work, I must do it myself.

Since either John or Bob is visiting me this afternoon, I must stay at home then.

Since not only John but also his sisters are visiting me this evening, I must prepare some food and drink for dinner.

Conjunctive adverbs except "yet" cannot be used to link phrases. The conjunctive adverb "yet" is restricted to the linking of adjectives or adverbs:

He is very poor yet very happy.

He did it very quickly yet very carefully.

Though the conjunctive adverb "yet" can be used to link phrases, and can be used in place of "but," it cannot be classed as a pure coordinator. The objection to it being classed as a pure coordinator is the same as that to the correlative conjunctions, that is to say, it can also be preceded by another conjunction, e.g.:

He is very poor and yet very happy.

⁴Note that one of the characteristics of pure coordinators is that pure coordinators cannot be preceded by another conjunction. We must not say: He is very poor and but very happy.

He did it very quickly and yet very carefully.

The conjunction "for" cannot be used to link phrases. Thus in view of phrase coordination, it cannot be classed as a pure coordinator either.

The word "not" in

. I like you not him

looks like a coordinator in that it connects two members of equal value. But the fact that it can be preceded by another conjunction excludes it from being classed as a coordinator:

. I like you but not him.

Quirk regards "not" of this kind as a negative proform for the subject and part of the predicate.⁵

. I like you but I do not like him.

Now then, what coordinators allow ellipsis in phrase coordinations? The coordinators and, or and but allow ellipsis in phrase coordinations:

. small and big houses

is elliptical for

small houses and big houses

. people from America and from Japan

is elliptical for

people from America and people from Japan

. in New York and Washington

is elliptical for

in New York and in Washington

. that boy or girl

⁵A Grammar of Contemporary English, 6th impression (London, 1976), p. 698.

is elliptical for

that boy or that girl

. one or two stories

is elliptical for

one story or two stories

. my father or uncle

is elliptical for

my father or my uncle

. eager but afraid to do it

is elliptical for

eager to do it but afraid to do it.

On the contrary, the correlative conjunctions do not allow ellipsis because they are by nature emotive and emphatic as well. And one of the many ways to give emphasis is by repetition. And it is repetition that is required by the correlative conjunctions. What is meant by repetition here is the saying or stating again of something in common found in the members connected by the correlative conjunctions. The following example may clarify this fact:

Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?-- 1 Cor. xiv. 6.

The latter part of this sentence would sound very feeble in comparison if it stood thus: "Except I shall speak to you by revelation, knowledge, prophesying, or doctrine."⁶

It is clear then, that by using the correlative conjunction either ... or and by repeating the preposition by, the meaning expressed is more emphatic or striking. Thus the preposition by is not to be omitted, but it is

⁶J.C. Nesfield, Aids to the Study and Composition of English (London, 1960), p. 198.

to be repeated , for, in this case, it is needed by the nature of the correlative conjunction either ... or.

This fact is also congruent with Campbell's suggestion which says that the parts or members connected by a correlative conjunction must balance each other.⁷ To clarify this, he gives an example as follows:

We should not say

. I have food neither for myself nor my horse

We must put it

. I have food $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{neither } \underline{\text{for}} \text{ myself} \\ \text{nor } \underline{\text{for}} \text{ my horse} \end{array} \right.$

or

. I have room for $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{neither myself} \\ \text{nor my horse} \end{array} \right.$

Porter G. Perrin in his book An Index to English also states the same principle. He says that when a correlative conjunction is used, the elements connected by the correlative conjunction not only should be of the same value but also should have the same word order.⁸

For example:

. They can be had not only in the usual sizes but also in the outsizes.

Similarly, F.J. Rowe and W.T. Webb say as follows:

It is plain that 'He has not only made a competence but a fortune' should be 'He has made not only a competence but a fortune,' since not only qualifies 'a competence' and not 'made.' On the other hand, 'He has not only made a competence but accumulated a fortune'

⁷R.R. Campbell, English Composition for Foreign Students, 10th impression (London, 1961), pp. 20-21.

⁸Glenview, 1965, p. 131.

is correct, because not only no longer qualifies 'a competence' but 'made.'⁹

They further present some other examples:

Incorrect: He both offended him and his brother.

Correct : He offended both him and his brother.

Incorrect: Exercise is good both for body and mind.

Correct : / Exercise is good for both body and mind.
 \ Exercise is good both for body and for
 mind.

Thus correlative conjunctions are not admissible of ellipsis. Nevertheless, some speakers sometimes deviate from this rule, especially with the correlative conjunctions either ... or and both ... and, e.g.

- . either on Friday or Saturday
- . both your father and uncle
- . both for you and your father

Perhaps this is caused by the influence of the coordinators or and and which are admissible of ellipsis. But to stick to the rule, or rather to the nature of correlative conjunctions, we should say:

- . either on Friday or on Saturday
- . both your father and your uncle
- . both for you and for your father

The conjunctive adverb "yet" is also admissible of ellipsis, as in:

- . eager (to do it) yet afraid to do it.

Admissible of ellipsis though it is, it cannot be classed as a pure coordinator, since it can be preceded

⁹A Guide to the Study of English (London, 1954), pp. 322-323.

by another conjunction. (See page 11).

We, therefore, in discussing ellipsis in phrase coordinations which will be discussed in detail in the next chapter, will be concerned only with the three conjunctions and, or and but which can be really regarded as coordinators.

2. Coordinators allowing ellipsis in clause coordinations

Besides linking phrases, the coordinators and, or, and but can also link clauses. As clause linkers, they are also admissible of ellipsis. The following are some examples of ellipsis of subject:

- . John went to the door, and (John) opened it with a key.
- . Perhaps he is willing to help you, but (he) hasn't told me about it.
- . I may see you tomorrow, or (I) may phone later in the day.

This kind of ellipsis may happen when the subject of the clause introduced by the coordinator is co-referential with that of the preceding linked clause. This is not true for the correlative conjunctions, and most conjunctive adverbs. Nor is this true for for.

With the correlative conjunctions, there is no ellipsis in the strict sense, since ellipted elements cannot be supplied. This is true so long as we stick to the nature of correlative conjunctions. Being required by the nature of correlative conjunctions, the members connected by a correlative conjunction must balance each other, e.g.

- . John not only visited Mary but also visited Bob.

We should not say

- . John not only visited Mary but also Bob. (with the verbal predicate ellipted).

This principle is also approved of by handbooks of rhetoric. Francis says that handbooks of rhetoric disapprove of the following structures, though they are common in speech and writing:¹⁰

- a. He not only came to town but to my house.
- b. I either must sell my car or my furniture.

These may be treated as elliptical structures:

- a. He not only came to town but (came) to my house.
- b. I either must sell my car or (must sell) my furniture.

Thus handbooks of rhetoric also suggest that the structures without ellipsis should be used, since the members after the first and second parts of the correlative conjunctions must balance each other.

It is also necessary to note that the structure

- . He not only came to town but came to my house
- should not be regarded as having ellipsis of subject:
- . He not only came to town but (he) came to my house.
- because in fact we have nothing ellipted in

- . He not only came to town but came to my house.

If we add "he" after the second part of the correlative conjunction, we must change the structure into:

- . Not only did he come to town but he came to my house

To make the meaning expressed more emphatic, also is

¹⁰W. Nelson Francis, The Structure of American English (New York, 1958), pp. 365-366.

added:

- . Not only did he come to town but he also came to my house.

With the correlative conjunctions, some kind of ellipsis, though cannot be supplied, is felt, because sentences using the correlative conjunctions are equivalent to those using coordinators. The sentences

- . John both phoned Mary and wrote her a letter
- . I either must sell my car or must sell my furniture
- . He neither visited me nor visited Bob
- . John not only phoned Mary but also wrote her a letter

are respectively equivalent to:

- . John phoned Mary and (John) wrote her a letter
- . I must sell my car or (I) must sell my furniture
- . He did not visit me and (he) did not visit Bob
- . John phoned Mary and (John) wrote her a letter

The non correlatives nor and neither never allow ellipsis of subject, for they must be followed by the inversion of subject and predicate, e.g.

- . She did not visit John, $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{neither} \\ \text{nor} \end{array} \right\}$ did she visit me.

In addition, the non correlative conjunctions nor and neither can be preceded by another conjunction:

- . She did not visit John, and $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{neither} \\ \text{nor} \end{array} \right\}$ did she visit me.

The conjunctive adverbs yet, so and then may allow ellipsis of subject, as in:

- . He studied hard, yet failed in the examination
- . John was hungry, so went straight to the restaurant.

. She borrowed a pen from me, then wrote a letter.
 Though yet, so, and then allow ellipsis as the coordinators do, they cannot be classed as coordinators, since they can be preceded by another conjunction:

- . He studied hard, and yet he failed in the examination.
- . John was hungry, and so he went straight to the restaurant
- . She borrowed a pen from me, and then she wrote a letter.

The conjunction for does not allow ellipsis of subject. So it cannot be classed as a pure coordinator. We should not say:

- . He did not come, for was sick.

but we should say:

- . He did not come, for he was sick.

It is worth noting that as well as cannot be classed as a pure coordinator either, though it is sometimes used as a substitute for and, e.g.

- . He lent me his bike and gave me money.
- . He lent me his bike as well as gave me money.

But at other times, it behaves like a preposition, as in

- . As well as giving me money, he lent me his bike.

When in subject position, it does not bring about plural concord. This feature differentiates as well as from and, e.g.

- . John as well as { you
Paul
his brothers } is guilty.

but

. John and { you
Paul
his brothers } are guilty.

In constructions using as well as in subject position, the verb agrees with the first noun phrase as in the example above. Thus, as well as, in this respect, resembles prepositions such as with and in addition to rather than the coordinator and. It is obvious that as well as cannot be classed as a coordinator.

We therefore in discussing ellipsis in clause coordinations will be concerned only with the coordinators and, or and but.

D. Characteristics of Ellipsis in Coordinations

Characteristics of ellipsis in general have been dealt with in chapter I. Now we are going to discuss characteristics of ellipsis in coordinate constructions.

In each of the following sentences the members connected by the coordinator are complete:

- a. He has cars and buses.
- b. He has built several houses in Jakarta and in Surabaya.
- c. Paul is reading a magazine, and Mary is writing a letter.

As described in the examples above, we see that two words, both nouns of equal value, are joined (a); two phrases, both adverbs of place, of equal value, are joined (b), and two clauses, both independent clauses, of equal value, are joined (c).

The members in coordinate constructions, however,

are not always thus complete as those in the examples above. When the members in coordination have something in common, we naturally tend to use contraction or ellipsis, e.g.

- Clauses:

Complete:

John is studying and Paul is studying.

Contracted:

John and Paul are studying.

Complete:

John walked to the door and opened it.

Ellipted (subject):

John walked to the door and opened it.

- Phrases:

Complete:

He has built several houses in Jakarta and in Surabaya.

Ellipted (preposition):

He has built several houses in Jakarta and Surabaya.

Complete:

Shall we get off at the crossroads or at the post office?

Ellipted (preposition):

Shall we get off at the crossroads or the post office?¹¹

This is so, because in us there is a natural tendency

¹¹D.H. Spencer, English Conversation Practice (London, 1972), p.4.

to be thrifty in the use of time and effort.

It is necessary to note that ellipsis does not occur in

. John and Paul are studying.

though the sentence conveys the semantic implication of

. John is studying and Paul is studying.

The reason is that, as a matter of fact, 'John and Paul' is the compound or plural subject of the sentence. And being the compound subject, analogous to the boys or the personal pronoun they, 'John and Paul' requires plural concord of its verb:

John and Paul	}	are studying.
The boys		
They		

Thus there is no ellipsis in

. John and Paul are studying.

We cannot insert the verb phrase after John, for it results in wrong number concord. John, being a singular subject, must never be followed by a plural verb. We must not say:

. John are studying and Paul are studying.

This fact proves that no ellipsis occurs in

. John and Paul are studying.

In his book A Grammar of Contemporary English, Quirk also states that

When two or more phrases are coordinated, we shall not regard such coordination as involving clausal coordination with ellipsis of all other constituents, even if in some cases the resultant sentence is semantically equivalent under some interpretations. This is because beyond a certain point it becomes more economical to discuss coordination in terms of what elements are realized rather than what elements are mis-

sing.¹² For example, in

. You and your brother can watch television now
the coordinated phrase "You and your brother" is not
considered elliptical, despite the equivalence of

. You can watch television now and your brother can
watch television now.

Such coordination is regarded here as phrasal coordina-
tion. Within phrasal coordination, however, there can
be ellipsis, for example of a determiner:

. He telephoned his wife and (his) child.

Similarly, Quirk further states that

We have found it convenient to suggest that
there is ellipsis of the rest of the clause
when the verb phrases or parts of them - the
auxiliaries or the lexical verb - are directly
linked. When other phrases are directly con-
joined by and and or, we shall not attempt to
posit ellipsis of the rest of the clause,
though there may be ellipsis within the
phrases.¹³ For example,

. Peter and John played football

is not regarded as elliptical for

. Peter played football and John played football

though of course in at least one interpretation, "Peter
and John played football" is synonymous with "Peter
played football and John played football," and "Peter
played football and John played football" then conveys
the semantic implication of "Peter and John played foot-
ball." Instead we regard Peter and John as a coordi-
nated plural phrase functioning as subject of the sen-
tence, analogous to the boys or the proform they. This
type of coordination is phrasal coordination.

¹²Quirk, p. 569.

¹³Quirk, p. 594.

In the examples above, ellipsis occurs in the second of the two coordinate members. When linking a series of things in coordination, we may have identical items ellipsed in all members but the first:

- . They could describe an entertainment with accuracy, (they could) relate an anecdote with humour, and (they could) laugh at their acquaintance with spirit.¹⁴
- . It is certainly not only in England that people eat food from tins, (from) packets, (from) frozen bags.¹⁵
- . Your mother, (your) sister, and (your) brother

Note that when linking a series of things in coordination, we usually use an explicit coordinator between the last two, and use a comma after each of the preceding items (see the first and the third examples above), or, sometimes, there is no explicit coordinator at all, but, instead, we use a comma (see the second example).

The realized element is usually in the first member of the coordination (see examples above). But occasionally the realized element is in the last member of the coordination:

- . John may (help me), and Paul certainly will, help me
- . Old (men), young (men), poor (men), rich (men), tall (men), short (men), stupid (men), clever men have a right to be treated justly.
- . Bob is (attending the meeting this evening), John

¹⁴Jane Austen, Pride and Prejudice (London, 1967), p. 40.

¹⁵"Food for thought," Modern English, XIII (Spring 1974), 25.

will be (attending the meeting this evening), and
Mary might be, attending the meeting this evening.

There may be more than one point ellipted:

- . John was punished by the teacher yesterday, and
(John) will be (punished) if he disobeys him.

The subject can be ellipted if it is present as a realized element in the first clause.

Ellipsis so far described is called simple ellipsis.

Ellipsis may occur in every member of the coordination. This can happen when the element ellipted in the first member is realized in the last one, and that ellipted in the last member is realized in the first.

Ellipsis of this kind is called complex ellipsis, e.g.

- . The books (on the shelf) and (the) magazines on the shelf.
- . He can (buy a car), and (he) certainly will, buy a car.
- . John loves (Mary), (John) admires (Mary), and (John) often visits, Mary.

In the last example, the middle member shares the ellipsis of both the first and the last members.



CHAPTER III

ELLIPSIS IN COORDINATE CONSTRUCTION

Since there are two kinds of coordinations which are admissible of ellipsis - phrase coordinations and clause coordinations -, we will discuss, first, ellipsis in phrase coordinations, and then ellipsis in clause coordinations.

A. Ellipsis in Phrase Coordinations

Phrases in coordinations may be in the forms of noun phrases, infinitive phrases, participle phrases, gerund phrases, preposition phrases, adjective phrases, and adverb phrases.

1. Ellipsis within noun phrase coordinations

a. Ellipsis of head

There may be ellipsis of the head within a noun phrase. The following examples

- . foolish and intelligent people
- . rich and poor people
- . small and big houses

are respectively elliptical for

- . foolish people and intelligent people
- . rich people and poor people
- . small houses and big houses

with the head ellipted in the first member.

We cannot say of people who are both foolish and intelligent, or both rich and poor. Nor can we say of houses which are both small and big. Hence in

- . foolish and intelligent people

- . rich and poor people
- . small and big houses

we have conjoined noun phrases with ellipsis of the head in the first member. On the other hand we have no ellipsis when adjectives are conjoined, as in

- . The manager likes honest and industrious workers

Here the same workers are both honest and industrious. Certainly it is unlikely for a manager to like workers that are honest but lazy, or industrious but dishonest. We can also have conjoined adjectives with the coordinator but, e.g.

- . Industrious but dishonest workers will never find favour in their manager's eyes

There must not be any article between conjoined modifiers. Otherwise ellipsis of the head occurs. There is no ellipsis of the head in

- . a black and white dog - one dog that is partly black and partly white

But when an article is inserted between two modifiers, ellipsis of the head does happen:

- . a black and a white dog - two dogs, one black and the other white

Thus there is ellipsis of the head in the first member.

With appositional coordinations, there is no ellipsis of the head either:

- . Stupid or foolish men will never accomplish enterprise such as this.

The adjective foolish is the synonym of stupid, functioning only as an apposition. Hence no differentiation of the type of men is involved, and it also means

no ellipsis occurs. On the other hand there is ellipsis when differentiation of the type of men is involved, as in

- . Stupid (men) or intelligent men may do abominable things such as this.

It is impossible that men are both stupid and intelligent. But some men are said to be stupid, and some are said to be intelligent.

Here are some other examples of ellipsis of the head, but with modifiers other than adjectives:

- . Christmas (holidays) and summer holidays
- . people from America and (people) from Japan
- . three (times) or four times
- . one (story) or two stories
- . a step or two (steps)

Note that the ellipsed head need not have the same number as the realized head. (See the last two examples).

Sometimes ellipsis occurs in both members:

- . The difference between the tax on earned (income) and (the tax) on unearned income is enormous.¹⁶

In the first member the head of the noun phrase in the postmodifying preposition phrase is ellipsed, while in the second member the head of the whole noun phrase is ellipsed.

We may also have conjoined modifiers other than adjectives, e.g.

- . The bus for the Houses of Parliament and (for)

¹⁶Quirk, p. 599.

Westminster Abbey will soon be here.¹⁷

In this case if the same bus, considering the closeness of these places, goes to both of the places, there is no ellipsis of the bus in the second member. Thus the modifiers for the Houses of Parliament and (for) Westminster Abbey refer or characterize the same bus.

We may have several interpretations when we use a plural in the noun phrase:

- . the books on this table and on that table

If there is only one book on each table, there is no ellipsis in the second member. The coordination above is equivalent to

- . the book on this table and the book on that table

If there is more than one book on each table, there is ellipsis, and the coordination is therefore equivalent to

- . the books on this table and the books on that table

The coordination

- . the books on this table and on that table

could also represent further possibilities:

- . the books on this table and the book on that table
- . the book on this table and the books on that table

Similarly, the construction

- . the bills for gas and (for) electricity¹⁸

can also be interpreted as

- . the bills for gas and ((the bills) for) electricity
- . the bills for gas and the bill for electricity
- . the bill for gas and the bills for electricity

¹⁷Quirk, p. 600

¹⁸Quirk, p. 601

- . the bill for gas and the bill for electricity

One further interpretation is possible, that is, the bills with combined accounts for gas and electricity. The same company may supply both gas and electricity, and put both accounts on the same bill. Thus no ellipsis is involved.

When demonstratives are linked with each other or with other determiner in a noun phrase, ellipsis of the head of the noun phrase appears to happen:

- . this (car) and that car
- . these (girls) and those girls
- . these (students) and other students

As a matter of fact the first demonstrative is the so called demonstrative pronoun, that is to say, the demonstrative which is used as a substitute or as a pro-form for a noun phrase. Considering this fact, it is reasonable for us to say that there is an objection to regarding the examples above as having ellipsis in the first member.

Some possessives may allow ellipsis of head, but some other may not. In the following examples, the possessives my and her allow ellipsis:

- . my (friends) and your friends
- . her (friends) and my friends

Possessives of this kind are usually called possessive adjectives. But there is no ellipsis in

- . your friends and mine
- . my friends and hers

since we may not supply a head after mine and hers.

Possessives of this kind are usually called possessive pronouns, meaning to say that they are used as substi-

tutes for noun phrases. Thus they are pro-forms. But when the possessive his is used, it may be regarded as allowing ellipsis or as a pro-form:

. My sister and his are teachers

If the possessive his is regarded as a possessive adjective, ellipsis of the head (sister) does occur after his. Thus the sentence is elliptical for

. My sister and his sister are teachers

But if the possessive his is regarded as a possessive pronoun, no ellipsis occurs after his. In this case, his is a proform. This is also the case with nouns in the genitive case, such as John's, Tom's, etc., for they can do the work of a possessive adjective and of a possessive pronoun:

. My sister and John's are teachers

may be regarded as having ellipsis of the head sister:

. My sister and John's sister are teachers

or as not having ellipsis. When regarded as having ellipsis of the head sister, John's does the work of a possessive adjective, and when regarded as not having ellipsis of the head sister, John's, then, does the work of a possessive pronoun.

Occasionally, when an adjective is present, the head of the noun phrase is ellipted in the second member:

. old men and young (men)

. one poem or two (poems)

b. Ellipsis of modifier

There may also be ellipsis of the modifier within a noun phrase. In

- . The next one is selling second-hand shirts and trousers.¹⁹

the noun phrase coordination second-hand shirts and trousers may be regarded as elliptical for second-hand shirts and second-hand trousers, since modification may apply to more than one head. But the fact that we can also coordinate two noun phrases, only one of which is premodified, makes ambiguity possible:

- . He bought beautiful houses
- and

- . He bought cars

may be linked as follows:

- . He bought beautiful houses and cars

Thus when one reads

- . He bought beautiful houses and cars

one may interpret it either

- . He bought beautiful houses and beautiful cars

or

- . He bought beautiful houses and cars (without ellipsis of modifier in the second member).

There is some suggestion, however, that when the pre-modifier occurs in the first member, it also applies to the other heads in the coordination. Thus the usual interpretation of

- . He bought beautiful houses and cars

is

- . He bought beautiful houses and beautiful cars

To avoid ambiguity, reordering or introducing separate

¹⁹"Get Your Bananas Here," Modern English, XIII (No. 7, 1974), 4, col. 1.

determiners is necessary:

- . He bought cars and beautiful houses
- . He bought some beautiful houses and some cars

The following examples illustrate coordination with ellipted modifier:

1) Determiner

a) Article

- . a boy and (a) girl
- . the man and (the) woman

Ellipsis of article can be combined with ellipsis of another modifier:

- . the young boy or (the young) girl
- the problems (of their southern neighbours) and (the) needs of their southern neighbours.²⁰

When premodifiers are present, it can also cooccur with ellipsis of the head of the noun phrase in the first member:

- . the civil (leaders) and (the) religious leaders
- . the lazy (students) and (the) industrious students

If there is a series of noun phrases, the middle noun phrase(s) may share the ellipsis occurring in the first noun phrase and that in the last one, e.g.

- . the civil (leaders), (the) military (leaders), and (the) religious leaders.²¹

It is to be noted that if the noun phrase in the

²⁰Robert J. Alexander, Latin America, ed. Kenneth M. Gould (New York, 1967), p. 8.

²¹Ibid., p. 25.

first member has a determiner and premodifier, and we wish to ellipit the premodifier in subsequent members, we have to ellipit the determiner with it:

- . a young boy or (a young) girl
- . the old man and (the old) woman

To prevent the premodifier applying to subsequent members, we have to place the premodified noun phrase last:

- . a girl or a young boy
- . the woman and the old man

b) Possessive

- its literature, (its) art, and (its) music ...²²
- . Tom's magazines and (Tom's) notebooks
- . My success or (my) failure ...²³

c) Demonstrative

- . that boy and (that) girl
- . these boys or (these) girls
- . this book or (this) magazine

d) Other determiners

- . some boys and (some) girls
- . every man and (every) woman
- . other boys or (other) girls

2) Preposition phrase

- . boys (of fifteen) and girls of fifteen
- . the book (on the table) and (the) magazine on the table

²²Kenneth M. Gould, ed. The Soviet Union (New York, 1967), p. 104.

²³F.J. Rowe and W.T. Webb, A Guide to the Study of English (London, 1954), p. 240.

3) Infinitive

- . the boy (to be interviewed) and (the) girl to be interviewed
- . a book (to read) or (a) magazine to read

4) Participle

- . the crying boys and (the crying) girls
- . the men (working at the bank) and (the) women working at the bank
- . the wounded men and (the wounded) women

5) Relative Clause

- . men (who are lazy) and women who are lazy
- . the boys (who came here yesterday) and (the) girls who came here yesterday

As exemplified above, we see that a postmodifier can likewise be ellipted, but it must be realized in the last member, and ellipted in previous members. And if a determiner is present in the first member, it can either be ellipted or retained in subsequent members. Even if the determiners differ, ellipsis can take place:

- . many cows (grazing in the field) and some goats grazing in the field

This is evidently not the case with premodifiers. We cannot regard

- . many young boys and some girls
- as elliptical for
- . many young boys and some young girls

To prevent the postmodifier applying to previous members, the postmodified member must be placed first:

- . the girls who came here yesterday and the boys

- . the women working at the bank and the men

We can also construe ellipsis of premodifier and postmodifier. For example, in place of

- . young men who can speak English and young women who can speak English

we can have ellipsis of the postmodifier alone, as in

- . young men (who can speak English) and young women who can speak English

or ellipsis of both premodifier and postmodifier, as in

- . young men (who can speak English) and (young) women who can speak English

Note that one may interpret these two forms as full or elliptical forms. But by reversing the order of the members, we can get rid of the elliptical interpretation:

- . young women who can speak English and young men and

- . women who can speak English and young men

2. Ellipsis in Preposition Phrase Coordinations

To determine whether or not we have preposition phrases, the following conditions have to be taken into account.

The fact that a preposition following a verb may be regarded as part of the verb or as introducing a phrase brings about difficulty in determining whether or not we have a preposition phrase. It is, therefore, necessary to know when a preposition following a verb is regarded as part of the verb, and when as

introducing a phrase.

That a preposition following a verb constitutes part of the verb can be seen from the fact that it cannot be separated from the verb when the verb is turned into passive:

- . John called in a doctor to treat Mary for her illness. (active)
- . A doctor was called in to treat Mary for her illness (passive).

Here, the preposition in clings to the verb in the passive voice as in the active. Again, that the preposition in is united to the verb can also be seen from the fact that it does not govern the verb to treat coming immediately after it. Certainly, it is quite plain from the meaning that the whole verb is not to call, but to call in, meaning to invite or to summon. We, therefore, in the example above, have no preposition phrase with in as an introductory preposition. This test of course does not apply to intransitive verbs.

A better test to determine whether or not a preposition which follows a verb constitutes part of the verb is a single-word-verb substitution method, that is to say, when semantic unity in a phrase verb can be manifested by substitution with a single-word verb, the preposition following the verb constitutes part of the verb, e.g.

- . to take after - to resemble
 - . to laugh at - to ridicule
 - . to cry up - to praise
- etc.

On the other hand when a preposition following a verb

does not constitute part of the verb, it is then used as an introductory preposition - introducing a phrase. The following are some examples of ellipsis in preposition phrase coordinations:

- a. By conquest or (by) diplomacy, both the tsarist and Soviet regimes have expanded Russian territories ...²⁴
- b. Shall we get off at the cross-roads or (at) the post office?²⁵
- c. Every day people leave things on buses, (on) planes and (on) trains.²⁶
- d. We have the right to choose our own religion without approval (by the government) or (without) disapproval by the government.²⁷
- e. She's very little, about three (years old) or (about) four years old.²⁸
- f. Western Europe was vitally affected by events in Russia during (World War I) and after World War I.²⁹
- g. He spoke for the first (motion) and against the second motion.³⁰
- h. He climbed up (the wall) and over the wall.³¹

²⁴Rowe, p. 126.

²⁵Spencer, p. 4.

²⁶"Lost and found," Modern English, XIII (No. 1, 1974), 11, col. 3.

²⁷Harris G. Warren et al., Our Democracy at Work (Englewood Cliffs, 1963), p. 29.

²⁸"Adventures on a double-decker," Modern English, XIII (No. 10, 1974), 6, col. 2.

²⁹Louis L. Snyder, Western Europe, ed. Kenneth M. Gould (New York, 1967), p. 120.

³⁰Quirk, p. 608.

³¹Quirk, p. 608.

Some things to be noted here are the facts that when the prepositions are identical, those subsequent to the first can be ellipted (See examples a - e). On the other hand there is no ellipsis of preposition in the last three examples (f - h), since the prepositions are not identical. Secondly, when the parts following the prepositions in the coordination are identical, all of them but one can be ellipted. The realized element can be either in the first or in the last member. Thus the examples f and h respectively have the alternatives:

- . Western Europe was vitally affected by events in Russia during World War I and after (World War I).
- . He climbed up the wall and over (the wall).

3. Ellipsis in Infinitive Phrase Coordinations

The infinitive may occur either with or without an infinitive marker to. The infinitive without to is called the plain infinitive; while that with to is known as the infinitive with to. We may therefore have infinitive phrases either with a plain infinitive or with an infinitive with to as an introductory infinitive. Here are some examples of ellipsis in infinitive phrase coordinations with:

a. plain infinitive

- . I'll make the mechanic repair (the car) and re-paint the car.
- . I have never known Mary buy (such an obscene book) or read such an obscene book.

b. infinitive with to

- . I want you to wash (the clothes) and (to) iron the

clothes.

- . Our freedom of speech ... does not allow us to utter obscenities (about someone else) or to tell untruth about someone else.³²

Note that in an infinitive phrase coordination with an infinitive with to as an introductory infinitive in each member, the infinitive marker to in subsequent members can be ellipted (See the first example in group b).

4. Ellipsis in Participle Phrase Coordinations

There are two kinds of participles, namely, -ing participles, and -ed participles. Here are some examples of ellipsis in:

a. -ing participle phrase coordinations

- . Books were written defining (the perfect gentleman) and discussing "the perfect gentleman."³³
- . The authorities having arrived and (having) taken the seats reserved for them, the ceremony began.³⁴
- . The crusaders killed both Moslems and Jews, burning (their cities) and looting their cities.³⁵

b. -ed participle phrase coordinations

- . If you don't cease committing crimes, you will some day find yourself arrested (by the police) or shot by the police.

³²Warren, p. 29.

³³"Heroes: From Sir Philip Sidney to Evel Knievel," Modern English, XIII (No. 10, 1974), 18, col. 1.

³⁴R.W. Zandvoort, A Handbook of English Grammar, 7th ed. (London, 1976), p. 36.

³⁵Hugo Jaeckel, The Middle East, ed. Kenneth M. Gould (New York, 1967), p. 45.

- . Born (in America) and brought up in America, he behaves like an American.

5. Ellipsis in Gerund Phrase Coordinations

- . I don't like living (in a big city) or working in a big city.
- . Writing (novels) and reading novels are his hobbies.

It is necessary to note that elements ellipted in infinitive phrase, participle phrase, and gerund phrase coordinations may be the complement and/or modifier of the verb represented by the infinitive, participle or gerund (See the examples). Sometimes part of infinitive, participle or gerund itself is ellipted:

- . It is necessary for the car to be repaired and (to be) repainted.
- . Having read (the letter) and (having) torn the letter, he left me without saying "Good bye."
- . John enjoyed being welcome (by the audience) and (being) praised by the audience.

6. Ellipsis in Adjective Phrase Coordinations

- . Bob is eager (to do it) but afraid to do it.
- . He's too clumsy (to be good at games) and (too) slow to be good at games.
- . She's very kind and (very) friendly.

7. Ellipsis in Adverb Phrase Coordinations

- . He spoke very clearly and (very) convincingly.
- . Did he drive very carefully or (very) carelessly?

In addition to ellipsis in phrase coordinations so far discussed, we may also have ellipsis in coor -

dinated compound words:

- . men- and women-teachers
- . psycho- and socio-linguistics
- . sons- and daughters-in-law
- . writing-ink and -paper
- . hand-made and -packed

The elements in the compound words above are loosely attached, and because of this, ellipsis of the elements is possible. On the other hand in the more cohesive compound words ellipsis is not allowed in coordinations.

We should not say:

- . tooth- and head-aches

for

- . toothache and headache

Similarly, when words formed with prefixes that tend to be contrasted are coordinated, ellipsis of the base of the words is possible:

- . anti- and pro-communism
- . pre- and post-reformation
- . sub- and super-human

The affixes above are loosely attached. When affixes are tightly attached, no ellipsis is allowed. We should not say:

- . im- and ex-ports

in place of

- . import and export

B. Ellipsis in Clause Coordinations

A clause coordination is a construction in which one clause is joined to another clause by means of a coordinator.

What is meant by clause? House and Harman define it as "a subdivision of a sentence containing a subject and a predicate;"³⁶ while Nesfield defines a clause as "a sentence which is part of a larger sentence."³⁷ The two definitions mean the same thing, for the second definition implies what is stated in the first definition. We therefore can conclude that a clause must have a subject and a predicate, and it must be part of a larger sentence, or in other words a subdivision of a sentence.

In discussing ellipsis in clause coordinations, we have to refer to smaller parts of clauses. The basic parts of clauses or sentences are subject and predicate. The subject of a clause or a sentence is a word or words denoting what we speak about. The subject may be a noun or any word or group of words by which we say something about the thing denoted by the subject.

<u>Subject:</u>	<u>Predicate:</u>
Birds	fly
Mary	is a nurse
John	is intelligent
He	has given me a pencil
They	elected him president

³⁶House and Harman, Descriptive English Grammar, 2nd ed. (New York, 1950), pp. 12-13.

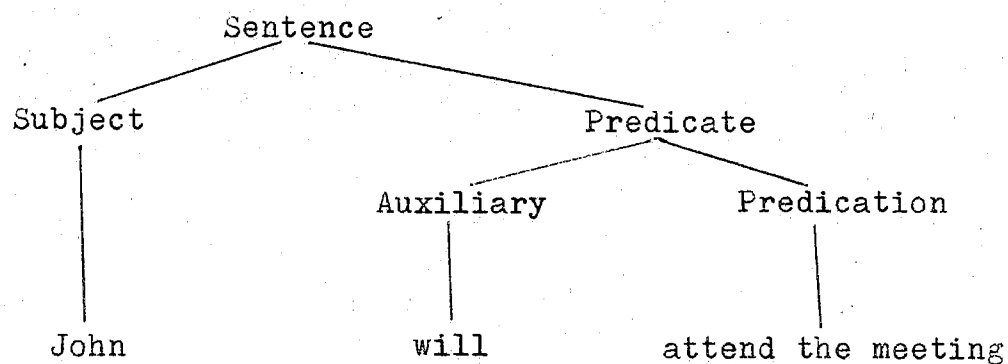
³⁷Nesfield, p. 3.

John and Mary will visit you next Sunday
 Twenty people were punished severely
 The car has been repaired
 Ten people were killed

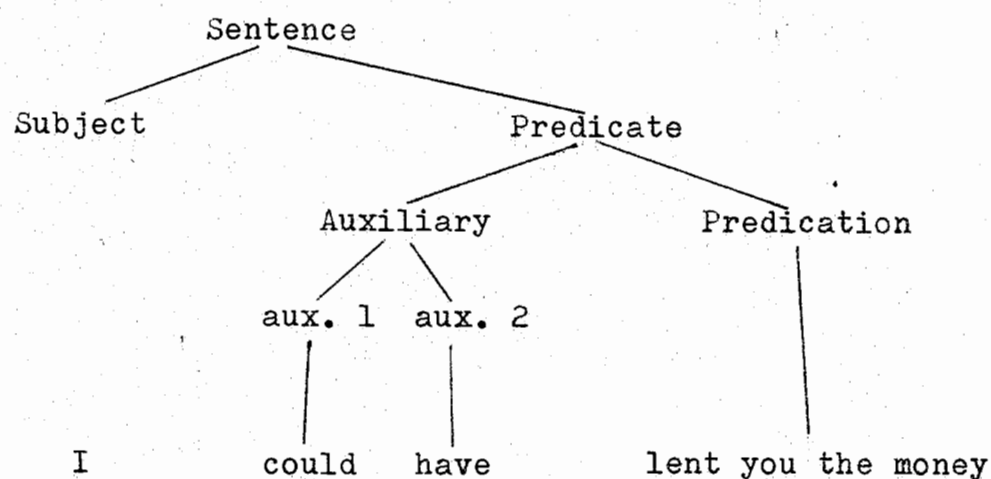
As can be seen in the examples above, the predicate may be only a finite verb, or it may be a finite verb with its complement and/or modifier, or a verb group having one finite verb and one non-finite verb or more. The verb group may or may not have complement and/or modifier.

Complements appearing with linking verbs are called subject complements; complements appearing with transitive verbs are called objects; while modifiers, in reference to predicate, are words having adverbial function.

As regards predicate, it may be further divided into auxiliary and predication. The term predication here is used to name the part beginning with a main verb; while the term main verb here is used for verbs other than auxiliaries. We can therefore have illustration as follows:



If there is more than one auxiliary, the diagram is as follows:



Why is the part beginning with a main verb called predication? This is called so because it does say something about the subject - predicating the subject. Certainly, predication is, as regards meaning, more important than auxiliary. Auxiliaries are only used to form verb groups, functioning only as helping verbs, showing aspect or modality, or sometimes functioning as intensifiers, or as a means to make negative or interrogative sentences.

It is true that ellipsis is used to avoid repetition. Yet the ellipited elements need not be identical in all respects with the realized elements on which the ellipsis is dependent. The ellipited and realized elements may be:

a. identical and co-referential:

- Elizabeth listened in silence but (Elizabeth) was not convinced.³⁸

b. identical and referring to manifestation of the same type:

- John will write a novel and Paul might (write a

³⁸Austen, p. 10.

novel) too.

c. identical but different in grammatical forms:

- . John has bought a car and Mary will (buy) an electric iron.

In type (c), the form of the main verb (the ellipted element) in the second clause is different from that in the first clause, since the auxiliary in the second clause requires a different form of the main verb (the ellipted element) from that in the realized element. Even the fact that in certain cases different subjects need different grammatical forms of verbal predicate becomes the cause or reason why the form of the ellipted main verb is different from that of the realized one, e.g.

- . I speak Indonesian, but John (speaks) English.
- . His anxiety for Jane was evident, and his attentions to herself (were) most pleasing.³⁹

There are still some other things particularly noteworthy. Quirk states that when coordinated clauses have identical main verbs but are different in voice, one active and the other passive, an ellipted passive is not allowed.⁴⁰ We can say:

- . Paul denied the charge, but the charge wasn't denied by his friends.

but we should not say:

- . Paul denied the charge, but the charge wasn't (denied) by his friends.

Quirk further says that one other co-occurrence seems dubious, that of modal followed by progressive. One can

³⁹Austen, p. 25.

⁴⁰Quirk, p. 581.

say:

- . John won't enter the competition, but Peter is entering the competition.

But the acceptability of

- . John won't enter the competition, but Peter is.
- is doubtful.

Now we will treat ellipsis in clause coordinations under three headings:

1. Ellipted Elements
2. Intonation and Punctuation Marking of Ellipsis
3. Semantic Effect of Ellipsis

1. Ellipted Elements

Ellipted elements can be classified according to their syntactic functions.

a. Ellipsis of Subject

If the subjects of coordinated clauses are identical, it is most common for the subject(s) subsequent to the first to be ellipted. For example:

- . She smiled but (she) made no answer.
- . Henry phoned her or (Henry) wrote her a letter.
- . Women build roads, (women) drive trucks, and (women) work in factories.⁴¹

If identical auxiliaries are present, the pro-form is as common as ellipsis, e.g.

- . Henry has phoned her or he has written her a letter.
- . Henry has phoned her or (Henry) has written her a letter.

⁴¹Kenneth M. Gould, ed. The Soviet Union (New York, 1967), p. 97.

But if the auxiliaries are different, ellipsis is more common:

- . Paul has finished his work, and (Paul) will soon go to the theatre.

b. Ellipsis of Auxiliary

We may have ellipsis of only the auxiliary provided that:

- 1) the ellipted element is realized in the first clause.
- 2) the subjects are not identical or co-referential.

For example:

- their original design of leaving Netherfield that morning should be mentioned and the request (should be) made.⁴²
- . You must go shopping and your brother (must) stay at home.

If the main verbs in both clauses are identical, ellipsis of only the auxiliary is normally not allowed. We should not say:

- . Paul will buy a small camera, and Bob (will) buy a pair of shoes.

c. Ellipsis of Subject and Auxiliary

If the subjects and auxiliaries of coordinated clauses are identical, it is common for the subject (subjects) and the auxiliary (auxiliaries) subsequent to the first to be ellipted:

- . You must apologize or (you must) resign.

⁴²Austen, p. 44.

- The most monstrous rumours were easily planted and (the most monstrous rumours were) often believed.⁴³

In cases like this, ellipsis of only the auxiliary is not allowed. We should not say:

- You must apologize or you (must) resign.

But ellipsis of only the subject is allowed:

- You must apologize or (you) must resign.

d. Ellipsis of Predication

Ellipsis of part or whole of predication can be treated under four headings:

- 1) Ellipsis of First Part of Predication
- 2) Ellipsis of Whole of Predication
- 3) Ellipsis of Subject Complement or Direct Object
- 4) Ellipsis of Adverbial

Note that in some cases the subject and/or auxiliary can be ellipted as well.

1) Ellipted of First Part of Predication

If only the first part of predication is ellipted, the realized elements are in the first clause, and the ellipsis is in clauses subsequent to the first:

a) Main verb only

- Mr. Darcy said very little, and Mr. Hurst (said) nothing at all.⁴⁴
- Tom is diligent but Paul (is) lazy.
- His anxiety for Jane was evident, and his attentions to herself (were) most pleasing.

⁴³Graham Greene, A Burnt-Out Case (London, 1963), p. 44.

⁴⁴Austen, p. 24.

- . Mary will buy a refrigerator, and John might (buy) an electric iron.

If the auxiliaries are identical, it is not common for the auxiliary (auxiliaries) subsequent to the first to be retained:

- . John will come this evening, and Mary will (come) next Sunday. (not common).

If the subjects of coordinated clauses are identical, we can also have ellipsis of the subject(s) subsequent to the first:

- . Paul will buy a small camera this month, and (Paul) might (buy) a tape-recorder next month.

b) Main verb and auxiliary (whole verbal predicate)

- . Tom will go to America this month, and Bob (will go) to Australia next month.
- . Paul has bought a small camera, and Mary (has bought) a refrigerator.
- . Paul will be happy, but Bob (will be) miserable.

The subject subsequent to the first can also be ellipted:

- . John will buy a house next month, and (John will buy) a car next year.
- . They have elected John president, and (they have elected) Bob vice-president.
- . You ought to have put the knives on the right, and (you ought to have put) the forks on the left.⁴⁵



⁴⁵Michael West, Improve Your English (London, 1958), p.66.

c) Main verb (linking verb) and subject complement

- . Dwight D. Eisenhower was the president from 1953 till 1961, and John F. Kennedy (was the president) from 1961 till 1963.

We can also have ellipsis of subject:

- . It's cold in December in England, but (it's cold) in July in New Zealand.⁴⁶

d) Whole verbal predicate and object

- . Mary will write a letter this morning, and Henry (will write a letter) this evening.

We may also have ellipsis of subject:

- . John received a letter from Mary two months ago, and (John received a letter) from Bob last month.

But in certain contexts, ambiguity is possible. For example, the sentence:

- . Bob is visiting Mary this afternoon, and Paul next Sunday.

can be interpreted as having two kinds of ellipsis:

First, ellipsis of subject and verbal predicate:

- . Bob is visiting Mary this afternoon, and (Bob is visiting) Paul next Sunday.

Second, ellipsis of verbal predicate and object:

- . Bob is visiting Mary this afternoon, and Paul (is visiting Mary) next Sunday.

2) Ellipsis of Whole Predication

If the whole predication is ellipted, the realized elements can be in the first clause or in the last:

- . Tom will buy a car, and Peter might (buy a car).

or

- . Tom will (buy a car) and Peter might, buy a car.

⁴⁶Quirk, p. 579.

But if the auxiliary in the last clause requires a different form of the head of the verb group from that in the first clause, the realized predication should be in the first clause:

- . Paul has helped me but Peter won't (help me).

On the other hand

- . Paul has (helped me) but Peter won't, help me.

is considered dubious, though it may occasionally occur in informal use.

The subject can also be ellipted in clauses subsequent to the first, e.g.

- . All the debts have been paid or (all the debts) will be (paid).⁴⁷
- . He can help you, and (he) certainly should (help you), but (he) probably won't (help you).

When the realized subject is in the first clause, and the realized predication is elsewhere, we then have complex ellipsis:

- . He was (writing a letter), (he) has been (writing a letter), and (he) will be, writing a letter.⁴⁸
- . She can (help you) and (she) certainly should, help you.

Ellipsis of one or more auxiliaries is possible, provided that the ellipted auxiliary (auxiliaries) is identical with the realized element:

- . You could (have done the work) and (you) should, have done the work.
- . The naughty boy could (have been punished) and (the naughty boy) should, have been punished.

⁴⁷George O. Curme, Syntax (Boston, 1931), p. 162.

⁴⁸Curme, p. 449.

3) Ellipsis of Subject Complement or Direct Object

Ellipsis of subject complement may occur either in the first clause or in the last clause, provided that the main verb (linking verb) in the last clause is BE:

. Paul seemed (nervous), and Bob certainly was, nervous.

or

. Paul seemed nervous, and Bob certainly was (nervous).

But if the linking verb in the last clause is other than BE, ellipsis of subject complement must be in the first clause, the realized elements in the last clause:

. Bob certainly was (nervous) and Paul seemed, nervous.

With ellipsis of the subjects in clauses subsequent to the first, we have complex ellipsis:

. The producer ... examined (the words of current hits) and (the producer) explained, the words of current hits.⁴⁹

. You are (my true friend) and (you) always have been, my true friend.

But if the realized subject complement is in the first clause, we then have simple ellipsis:

. You are my true friend and (you) always have been (my true friend).⁵⁰

If the direct object is ellipted, the realized elements must be in the last clause:

⁴⁹"D'you wanna learn the language of pop songs?," *Modern English*, XIII (No. 3, 1974), 10, col. 1.

⁵⁰Curme, p. 41.

- . My mother washed (the dishes) and I dried, the dishes.
- . I question (the truth of John's account), but Peter believes, the truth of John's account.

4) Ellipsis of Adverbial

We may have ellipsis of adverbial only when

- a) the adverbial is in end-position and applies to both clauses. The realized adverbial may be in the first clause:
 - . Brian wrote to his parents yesterday, and (Brian) will be writing again (to his parents) today.⁵¹
- b) manner, place, or time adverbials are at the end of the last clause, and the coordinated clauses are short clauses, e.g.
 - . John works (in New York), and Peter lives, in New York.
 - . Paul works (diligently), and Mary studies, diligently.
 - . He was imprisoned (in 1965) and (he was) set free, in 1965.

When an adverbial is positioned initially, it is more precise to say that the scope of the adverbial is extended to subsequent clauses than to say that it is ellipted. For example, Fortunately, in:

- . Fortunately, I didn't miss the train and Mary lent me the money.

appears to apply to the combination of the circumstances described in the two clauses rather than separately to each circumstance.

⁵¹Quirk, p. 588.

When an adverbial is positioned in the middle, or at the end of any but the last clause, it is generally interpreted as applying to its particular clause only:

- . Mother is probably in the kitchen, and my sister is in her study
- . Mother is in the kitchen, probably, and my sister is in her study.
- . Mother is in the kitchen, and my sister is probably in her study.

But if there is an ellipsis that links the two clauses more closely, the scope of the adverbial is extended to the second clause:

- . Mother is probably in the kitchen and my sister in her study.
- . He will often phone you or write you a letter.

Another thing to note is that when the coordinator BUT is used, the scope of adverbial is rarely extended to subsequent clauses:

- . Bob never smokes, but drinks alcohol.
- . Peter is only a shop-assistant, but his brother a doctor.

In addition to ellipsis of predication, it is also necessary to pay attention to the predication substitutes DO, NOT, and TO.

DO in each of the following sentences is a proform for the predication (a predication substitute), since "missing elements" cannot be supplied:

- . Mary speaks English and John does too.
- . Bob wouldn't help me, but Paul did.
- . John plays football every Saturday, and I do every Sunday.

But when DO is used for negation, interrogation, or emphasis, it is not a pro-form for predication, since in such cases we can posit ellipsis:

- . Mary speaks English, but I don't (speak English).
- . You speak Javanese, but does John (speak Javanese)?
- . You don't like playing football, but I did (like playing football) when I was young.

NOT is regarded as a pro-form in:

- . Bob refused to do it, but not John.

since it does not require an auxiliary. But in:

- . Bob refused to do it, but John didn't.

we have ellipsis of the predication, since in this case NOT together with the auxiliary DID is used for negation. We can, therefore, posit ellipsis:

- . Bob refused to do it, but John didn't (refuse to do it).

TO can be regarded as a pro-form for an infinitive phrase in predication, or as allowing ellipsis of infinitive phrase in predication, e.g.

- . I asked him to tell Mary about it, but he didn't want to.

In this sentence there is a verb "want" which should be followed by the infinitive phrase "to tell Mary about it." But instead of the infinitive phrase, TO is used as a pro-form for the infinitive phrase, and is placed after the verb "want." Yet TO can also be regarded as allowing ellipsis of the infinitive phrase in predication, since the ellipted elements can be supplied. The following example may clarify this:

. One clause is subordinated:

- Mary goes to bed at 10 p.m. and I think that gets up at 5 a.m. (wrong).

. A set of coordinated clauses:

- John must stay at home, and Mary (must) go shopping.

. One clause is subordinated:

- John must stay at home, and I think that Mary go shopping. (wrong).

Instead, we normally use the appropriate pronoun as the subject, and repeat the auxiliary:

- John will buy a car this year, and I think that he will build a house next year.
- Mary goes to bed at 10 p.m., and I think that she gets up at 5 a.m.
- John must stay at home, and I think that Mary must go shopping.

In cases like this, ellipsis of the whole or part of predication may happen, provided that the auxiliary is retained, or, if there is no auxiliary, at least the main verb is retained:

- John will buy a car, and I think that Bob might (buy a car).
- Mary can (do it), and I think that she should, do it
- Paul seemed (nervous), and I am sure that Peter was, nervous.

e. Ellipsis of head of noun phrase

When the head of a noun phrase is ellipted, the realized head is normally in the first clause:

- . I wanted fried eggs, but she gave me boiled (eggs).
- . She wore the red dress, but the blue (dress) suits

her better.⁵²

Note that the noun phrases need not have the same function in both clauses. (See the last example).

f. Ellipsis of object of preposition

The object of a preposition can be ellipped with the realized object in the second clause:

- . Bob is very fond of (dogs), but Paul detests, dogs.
- . He listened to (what you said), but (he) didn't believe, what you said.

g. Ellipsis of conjunction

If two or more subordinate clauses having identical subordinate conjunctions are coordinated, the subordinate conjunction(s) subsequent to the first can be ellipped:

- . I don't know why he has been away for five days, and (why) his wife doesn't know where he has gone.
- . If you will work hard, and (if) your wife doesn't mind living in a big city, I will get you a job in Jakarta.

h. Ellipsis of whole clause

If two or more subordinate clauses are identical except for their conjunctions, all the clauses but one can be ellipped. And the realized clause should be in the last member. The conjunctions, therefore, are linked:

- . I'll ask him when (the seminar is to be held), where (the seminar is to be held), and how the seminar is to be held.

⁵²Quirk, p. 590.

- . John will call on you before (you have dinner) or after you have dinner.

Sometimes the realized clause is in the first member:

- . John will call on you before you have dinner or after (you have dinner).

We have just discussed ellipsis in terms of what elements can be ellipted. To have a more complete description of ellipsis, it is of course necessary to see how ellipsis is marked in spoken and written English, and what semantic effect is brought about by ellipsis.

2. Intonation and Punctuation Marking of Ellipsis

In speech, intonation break is often used to mark ellipsis; while in written English, ellipsis is often marked by a comma punctuation.

When the ellipsis is in the first clause, intonation break or comma punctuation is used in subsequent clauses, at the point corresponding to the beginning of the ellipsis in the first clause:

- . Paul will (attend the meeting), and Peter might, attend the meeting.
- . Bob likes (dogs), but John detests, dogs.

Intonation break and comma punctuation, however, may be absent if the ellipsis results in the linking of two main verbs:

- . John can read and write English.
- . Mary washed and dried the dishes.

When there is ellipsis of subject, or of subject and immediately following elements in clauses subse-

quent to the first, there is no intonation break or comma punctuation for this kind of ellipsis:

- . He has just been appointed vice-president but will resign next month. (ellipsis of the subject "he").
- . John will build a house and buy a car. (ellipsis of the subject and auxiliary "John will").

But in other cases of ellipsis, though comma punctuation is frequently absent, intonation break is usually present. This is particularly the case when:

- . the realized elements are in the first clause
- . there is no ellipsis of subject, or if there is any, the ellipsis of subject must not immediately be followed by another ellipsis. Thus there must be intervening words between the ellipsis of subject and the following ellipsis.

Here are some examples:

- . John leaves for London next Monday and Bob (leaves for London) next Friday.
- . Paul speaks English but Tono (speaks) Indonesian.
- . John was not appointed president four years ago, but (John) might be (appointed president) next year.

Note that there is no marker for ellipsis in phrase coordinations, no intonation break or comma punctuation being used. That is why we place this subheading "Intonation and Punctuation Marking of Ellipsis" under "Ellipsis in Clause Coordinations."

3. Semantic Effect of Ellipsis

Ellipsis in clause coordination may affect meaning, but ellipsis in phrase coordination does not.

We, therefore, discuss semantic effect of ellipsis only in reference to ellipsis in clause coordination.

Certainly, clauses which are coordinated must have a logical and close connection. We cannot say:

. John works at the factory and my house is big.

since there is no logical connection between the semantic content of the clauses which motivates the combination. But we can say:

. John works at the factory, and Mary works at the hospital.

. John works in London, and John lives in London.

since there is a logical and close connection between the semantic content of the clauses. And the connection can be made even closer by means of ellipsis:

. John works at the factory, and Mary at the hospital.

. John works and lives in London.

In addition, ellipsis sometimes indicates that there is a combined process rather than two separate processes. In:

. Did Mary arrive late and make her friends angry?

the ellipsis has a combinatory effect; that is to say, Mary's arriving late had the result that her friends became angry. Thus, the sentence is one question, and may be answered by "Yes" or "No." On the other hand there is no such implication in:

. Did Mary arrive late, and did she make her friends angry?

since Mary's arriving late and her making her friends angry are regarded as two separate processes, and therefore there are two separate questions.

Again in:

. Did Bob kill the dog but refuse to admit it?
 there is also a combined process in that his refusal clearly has something to do with, or is clearly connected to, his killing of the dog, in the sense that his refusal is considered surprising in view of his killing of the dog. Thus the sentence is again a combined process, constituting one question which can be answered by "Yes" or "No." With the coordinator BUT, a non-elliptical form is unacceptable:

- . Did Bob kill the dog but did he refuse to admit it?
 (unacceptable).

As regards combinatory effect, Quirk says that there may also be a combined process when the first member is negated:⁵³

. John didn't break the window but refuse to pay for it.
 is a denial of the statement:

- . John broke the window but refused to pay for it.

As a negation of a combined process, the statement could evoke the retort "Yes, he did." On the other hand in each of the following sentences, there are two separate processes, and the scope of negation in the first member does not extend to the second member:

- . John didn't break the window, but he offered to pay for it.
- . John didn't break the window, but he didn't offer to pay for it, either.

Negation in the first member can affect clauses coordinated by OR. The sentence:

⁵³Quirk, p. 593.

. Bob doesn't smoke or drink alcohol
is synonymous with

- . Bob doesn't smoke and doesn't drink alcohol
- . Bob doesn't smoke and he doesn't drink alcohol
- . Bob doesn't smoke nor does he drink alcohol

since

. Bob doesn't smoke or drink alcohol
denies both possibilities. On the other hand

. Bob doesn't smoke or drink alcohol
is not synonymous with

. Bob doesn't smoke or he doesn't drink alcohol
because the former excludes both possibilities, while the
latter only one of the two possibilities.

CHAPTER IV

PROBLEMS OF ELLIPSIS FOUND BY INDONESIAN STUDENTS IN LEARNING ENGLISH

In this chapter, we will discuss or analyse problems of ellipsis found by Indonesian students in learning English. This will be done in the following order:

- A. Problems of Ellipsis in Phrase Coordinations
- B. Problems of Ellipsis in Clause Coordinations

Based on the test I have given to the third year students of the English Department, IKIP Sanata Dharma, and the compositions of the same students, I can see what problems faced by the students in using ellipsis.

- A. Problems of Ellipsis in Phrase Coordinations

Most students do not find many problems or difficulties in using ellipsis in phrase coordinations. They find difficulties only in certain cases:

- 1. Problem of Ellipsis of Head

The students know that

- . foolish and intelligent people

is elliptical for

- . foolish people and intelligent people

Thus they know that ellipsis of head occurs in the first member of the coordination. But they do not know that in

- . The manager likes honest and industrious workers there is no ellipsis of head. (See explanation p. 27). They consider "honest and industrious workers" elliptical for "honest workers and industrious workers."

It is then clear that they do not understand the real or exact meaning of "honest and industrious workers" in the sentence. The idea that the manager likes workers who are both honest and industrious does not occur to them. Neither do they know that with appositional coordinations, there is no ellipsis of head either. (See pp. 27-28)

There is no ellipsis of head in the appositional coordination "stupid or foolish men." They however think that "stupid or foolish men" is elliptical for "stupid men or foolish men."

There is still another thing worth noting. Most students do not know the difference between "a black and a white dog" and "a black and white dog." They know that "a black and a white dog" is elliptical for "a black dog and a white dog." But they do not know that in "a black and white dog" no ellipsis occurs. They think that "a black and white dog" is also elliptical for "a black dog and a white dog." As a matter of fact, no ellipsis occurs in "a black and white dog," since "a black and white dog" means one dog that is partly black and partly white.

That they do not know the difference between "a black and a white dog" and "a black and white dog" is understandable, for in their mother tongue or L1 (in this case, Indonesian and/or Javanese) there is no article. That is why the presence or absence of an article in English seems to be of no importance to them. And this results in their not knowing the difference between "a black and a white dog" and "a black and white dog."

It is true that we may translate the indefinite article "a" or "an" into seekor, sebuah, sebatang, etc.. But quite often in Indonesian, especially in daily con -

versation, we do not use seekor, sebuah, sebatang, etc. though in English we should use an article "a" or "an." For instance, the following Indonesian sentences:

- . Tom ada anjing di belakangmu
- . John punya anjing hitam dan putih

may be respectively translated into English:

- . Tom, there is a dog behind you

or

- . Tom, there are (some) dogs behind you

and

- . John has a black and a white dog. (two dogs, one black and the other white).
- . John has black dogs and white dogs.
- . John has some black dogs and some white dogs
- . John has some black dogs and a white dog

or

- . John has a black dog and some white dogs

Based on the Indonesian sentences and their equivalents or translations in English, we can see that the idea of number in Indonesian is not so important as that in English. And certainly there is no plural ending in Indonesian. Singular and plural nouns have the same forms.

2. Problem of Ellipsis of Modifier

Most students do not find difficulty in using ellipsis of premodifier. But many of them find difficulty in using ellipsis of postmodifier. They do not know that when a postmodifier is in the first member of a coordination, it does not apply to the second member. They think that the following coordination:

- . the girls who came here yesterday and the boys
- is elliptical for

- . the girls who came here yesterday and the boys who came here yesterday

But when a postmodifier is in the second member, they know that it applies to the first member. They know that the following coordinations:

- . the girls and the boys who came here yesterday
 - . many cows and some goats grazing in the field
- are respectively elliptical for
- . the girls who came here yesterday and the boys who came here yesterday
 - . many cows grazing in the field and some goats grazing in the field

It is then clear that they do not know that a different placement of a postmodifier does make a change in meaning.

B. Problems of Ellipsis in Clause Coordinations

Most students still find difficulty in using certain ellipsis in clause coordinations.

1. Problem of Ellipsis of Auxiliary only

The students do not know that in the following clause coordination, ellipsis of the auxiliary "must" in the second clause is possible:

- . You must go shopping, and your brother (must) stay at home.

They do not know that when the auxiliaries are identical, but the subjects are not identical or co-referential, ellipsis of auxiliary only may take place in the second clause, with the realized element in the first clause. But they do not find it difficult to use ellipsis of subject and auxiliary. They know

that "you must" in the second clause of the following coordination may be ellipted or deleted:

- . You must apologize or (you must) resign

That they do not find problem in this case is not surprising, for there is a similar pattern in Indonesian:

- . Kamu (Saudara/Anda) harus minta maaf atau mengundurkan diri

In the Indonesian sentence, there is also an ellipsis of "kamu (saudara/anda) harus" (in English "you must") in the second member of the coordination.

2. Problem of Ellipsis of Main Verb only

Almost all the students think that there is no ellipsis possible in the following clause coordinations:

- . Mary will buy a refrigerator, and John might buy an electric iron
- . John has bought a car, and Bob will buy a motor - scooter

As a matter of fact we may delete the verb buy in the second clause of each of the clause coordinations.

(See pp.49-50). The problem is probably caused by L1 interference. In Indonesian they probably express the ideas in the coordinations as follows:

- . Mary akan membeli (sebuah) lemari es, dan (sedangkan) John mungkin akan membeli (sebuah) setrika listrik
- . John telah membeli (sebuah) mobil, dan (sedangkan) Bob akan membeli (sebuah) motor-skuter.

The verb "membeli" in each of the second clauses should not be deleted. If the verb "membeli" in each of the second clauses is deleted, the sentences or

coordinations sound clumsy.

3. Problem of Ellipsis of Whole Verbal Predicate

Most students know that the following clause coordinations:

- . Mr. Darcy said very little, and Mr. Hurst said nothing at all
- . Paul has bought a small camera, and Mary has bought a refrigerator

may respectively have the elliptical forms:

- . Mr. Darcy said very little, and Mr. Hurst nothing at all
- . Paul has bought a small camera, and Mary a refrigerator

In this case they find no problem, since in Indonesian there are similar elliptical forms:

- . Pak Darcy bicara sedikit sekali, dan (sedangkan) Pak Hurst tak sesuatupun
- . Paul telah membeli (sebuah) kamera kecil, dan (sedangkan) Mary (sebuah) lemari es

But in the following coordinations, they do not think ellipsis is possible:

- . I speak Indonesian, but John speaks English
- . Tom is diligent, but Paul is lazy

Now we can conclude that they probably think as follows:

- . When verbal predicates in clause coordinations have different forms, no ellipsis of verbal predicate is possible
- . When verbal predicates in clause coordinations consist of a linking verb only, no ellipsis of verbal predicate is possible

And because of this, they delete nothing in the coordinations above. As a matter of fact the verbal predicates (speaks and is) in the second clauses above can be ellipted.

But that the students do not think ellipsis is possible in the coordination

. Tom is diligent, but Paul is lazy

is probably caused by L1 interference. If we study the following translations, from Indonesian into English:

Indonesian:	English:
Tom rajin	Tom is diligent
Paul malas	Paul is lazy

we can see the reason why they do not think ellipsis is possible in the coordination. Since "Tom rajin" and "Paul malas" are respectively translated into English "Tom is diligent" and "Paul is lazy," they automatically translate the coordination "Tom rajin tetapi Paul malas" into English "Tom is diligent but Paul is lazy" without any use of ellipsis. They just coordinate the two sentences "Tom is diligent" and "Paul is lazy" by means of the coordinator BUT. That is why they do not think ellipsis is possible in "Tom is diligent but Paul is lazy."

4. Problem of Ellipsis of Subject Complement

Most students know that ellipsis of subject complement in the second clause of the following coordination is possible:

. Paul seemed nervous, and Bob certainly was (nervous)

In this case no problem is found by them, for ellipsis of this kind often occurs. But when the order of the

clauses is reversed, they do not think ellipsis is possible:

. Bob certainly was nervous, and Paul seemed nervous
 This proves that the students at least feel, though probably not sure, that when the verb "seemed" is in the second clause, ellipsis of the subject complement in the second clause is not allowed. Certainly, the rule concerning this matter says that if the linking verb in the last clause is other than BE, ellipsis of the subject complement in the last clause is not allowed. Ellipsis of subject complement must be in the first clause, and the realized elements in the last clause. Thus the coordination:

. Bob certainly was nervous, and Paul seemed nervous
 has the elliptical form

. Bob certainly was, and Paul seemed, nervous

That they think no ellipsis is possible in the coordination:

. Bob certainly was nervous, and Paul seemed nervous
 is probably caused by L1 interference. In Indonesian the idea in the coordination is expressed without any use of ellipsis:

. Bob memang gelisah, dan (sedangkan) Paul nampaknya gelisah (juga).

or

. Bob memang gelisah, dan (sedangkan) Paul nampaknya begitu juga

5. Problem of Ellipsis of Whole Predication

The coordination:

. Tom will buy a car and Peter might buy a car
 has two elliptical forms:

. Tom will, and Peter might, buy a car
and

. Tom will buy a car, and Peter might.

But most students think no ellipsis of whole predication is possible in the coordination:

. Tom will buy a car, and Peter might buy a car

That they think no ellipsis of whole predication in the coordination is possible is probably caused by L1 interference. Probably they translate literally the coordination into Indonesian as follows:

. Tom akan membeli (sebuah) mobil, dan Peter mungkin akan membeli (sebuah) mobil.

They do not dare to delete the whole of the predication "membeli (sebuah) mobil" in the second clause, for they probably think that if it is deleted, the coordination sounds clumsy or unnatural:

. Tom akan membeli (sebuah) mobil, dan Peter mungkin akan

There are still two things interested to note:

First, when the word TOO (Indonesian JUGA) is added and placed at the end of the last clause, most students know that ellipsis of "buy a car" in the second (last) clause of the coordination above is possible. They know that

. Tom will buy a car, and Peter might buy a car too
has the elliptical form:

. Tom will buy a car, and Peter might too

They do not find problem in this case, for there is a similar pattern in Indonesian:

. Tom akan membeli (sebuah) mobil, dan Peter mungkin juga

In Indonesian, this pattern is most common or acceptable.

Second, when the coordinator used is BUT, most students know that ellipsis of whole predication is possible. They know that the following coordinations:

- . Mary speaks English, but I don't speak English
- . Paul has helped me, but Peter won't help me

respectively have the elliptical forms:

- . Mary speaks English, but I don't
- . Paul has helped me, but Peter won't

Certainly patterns of this kind often happen. That is why they do not find problem in this case. What is more there are similar patterns in Indonesian:

- . Mary bicara Inggris, tetapi saya tidak
- . Paul telah membantu saya, tetapi Peter tak mau

6. Problem of Ellipsis of Direct Object

The coordinations:

- . My mother washed the dishes, and I dried the dishes
- . I question the truth of John's account, but Peter believes the truth of John's account

respectively have the elliptical forms:

- . My mother washed, and I dried, the dishes
- . I question, but Peter believes, the truth of John's account

Most students do not know that when the direct object is ellipted, the realized elements must be in the last clause. They delete the direct objects in the second (last) clauses. They do not feel that the following elliptical forms:

- . My mother washed the dishes, and I dried
- . I question the truth of John's account, but Peter be-



lieves

are unacceptable. That they delete the direct objects in the second clauses is probably caused by L1 interference. In Indonesian it is acceptable to delete the direct object in the last clause:

- . Ibu saya mencuci piring gelas, dan (sedangkan) saya mengeringkan
- . Saya meragukan kebenaran laporan John, tetapi Peter percaya

7. Problem of Ellipsis of Adverb

In the following coordinations, the adverbs in the first clauses can be ellipted:

- a. He was imprisoned (in 1965), and (he was) set free, in 1965
- b. John works (in New York), and Peter lives, in New York
- c. Paul works (diligently), and Mary studies, diligently

Most students, however, do not know that the adverbs in the first clauses can be ellipted. As regards the coordination (a), most students know that "he was" in the second clause can be ellipted. But they do not know that the adverb "in 1965" in the first clause can also be ellipted. That they do not delete the adverb "in 1965" in the first clause is understandable, since in Indonesian the same idea is usually expressed without ellipsis of the adverb:

- . Dia dipenjara tahun 1965, dan dibebaskan tahun itu juga.

Note that the adverb "tahun itu juga" in the second clause is used as a substitute for the adverb "tahun 1965" (in 1965). That they do not delete the adverbs in

the first clauses of the coordinations (b) and (c) is also understandable, for in Indonesian the ideas expressed in the coordinations are expressed without ellipsis of the adverbs:

- . John bekerja di New York, dan (sedangkan) Peter bertempat tinggal di sana
- . Paul rajin bekerja, dan (sedangkan) Mary rajin belajar

In the coordination (b) the adverb "di sana" in the second clause is used as a substitute for the adverb "di New York." It is then clear that their not deleting the adverbs is very probably caused by L1 interference.

8. Problem of Ellipsis of Infinitive Phrase in Predication

Most students are still confused about ellipsis of infinitive phrase in predication. As regards the following coordinations:

- a. I suggested his selling the house, but he refused to sell the house
- b. He cheated in the examination, and I told him not to cheat in the examination
- c. I asked him to accept your proposal, but he did not want to accept your proposal

the students give several kinds of answers concerning what elements can be ellipted or deleted. Some students give the elliptical forms of the above coordinations as follows:

- a. I suggested his selling the house, but he refused
- b. He cheated in the examination, but I told him not
- c. I asked him to accept your proposal, but he did not want

These elliptical forms are unacceptable, and they indi -

cate L1 interference, for they clearly represent Indonesian manner of expression:

- a. Saya menyarankan dia menjual rumahnya, tetapi dia menolak
- b. Dia menyontek dalam ujian, dan saya peringatkan supaya tidak
- c. Saya minta dia menerima usulmu, tetapi dia tidak mau

Certainly these Indonesian elliptical forms are acceptable and normal.

Some other students give the elliptical forms of the coordinations above as follows:

- a. I suggested his selling the house, but he refused to sell
- b. He cheated in the examination, and I told him not to cheat.
- c. I asked him to accept your proposal, but he did not want to accept.

These elliptical forms are also unacceptable, and they also indicate L1 interference, for they also represent the following Indonesian manner of expression:

- a. Saya menyarankan dia menjual rumahnya, tetapi dia menolak (untuk) menjual
- b. Dia menyontek dalam ujian, dan saya peringatkan dia supaya tidak menyontek
- c. Saya minta dia menerima usulmu, tetapi dia tidak mau menerima

These Indonesian elliptical forms are rather redundant but still acceptable.

The rest, not more than one third of the students, can give the right elliptical forms of the coordinations above:

- a. I suggested his selling the house, but he refused to
- b. He cheated in the examination, and I told him not to
- c. I asked him to accept your proposal, but he didn't want to

In addition to what has been discussed, it is necessary to note that in general the students tend to use complete coordinations, without any use of ellipsis. The following are examples of complete coordinations taken from the result of the test I have given to the students, and from their compositions:

- . Mary will buy a refrigerator, and John might buy an electric iron
- . I speak Indonesian, but John speaks English
- . I wanted fried eggs, but she gave me boiled eggs
- . She lent me her book, and she asked me to keep it clean
- . She thought deeply about her problem, but she didn't find a way out
- . She went to bed, but she couldn't sleep until midnight
- . the old man or the old woman
- . some boys and some girls
- . my success or my failure
- . one story or two stories

Or if there are some elements possible to be ellipted, they do not always ellipt or delete all the elements. The underlined words in the following coordinations can be ellipted or deleted; nevertheless, most students only delete the words between brackets:

- . The most monstrous rumours were easily planted, and (the most monstrous rumours) were often believed
- . You are my true friend, and (you) always have been my true friend.

- We have the right to choose our own religion without approval (by the government) or without disapproval by the government

The tendency to use complete coordinations is probably caused by their ignorance of the rules concerning ellipsis. And their ignorance of the rules concerning ellipsis makes them afraid to use ellipsis. Rather than make mistakes, they use complete coordinations, without any use of ellipsis.

Some other factors which, I think, encourage the students to use complete coordinations are a slow process in coordinating ideas and a slow process in translating ideas. What I mean by a slow process in coordinating ideas is that the second idea (the second clause) which is to be the second member of the coordination does not soon occur to the writer or speaker after the first idea. This slow process in coordinating ideas leads the writer or speaker to use a complete coordination, repeating in the second member one or more elements which have been mentioned in the first member of the coordination. This of course results in a coordination without any ellipsis, though ellipsis is possible and more common. To be clearer, the following examples of coordinations taken from the students' compositions are necessary:

- She lent me her book, and she asked me to keep it clean
- She thought deeply about her problem, but she didn't find a way out.
- She went to bed, but she couldn't sleep until midnight.

I think the second idea expressed in the second clause of each coordination did not soon occur to the student

after the first idea expressed in the first clause. Since the second idea had not occur to him, he tended to translate first the first idea.⁵⁴ And after he had been able to form the second idea which was to be the second member of the coordination, he then translated the second idea into English with a tendency to repeat one or more elements which have been mentioned in the first member (in this case the subject "she"); while what I mean by a slow process in translating ideas is that the student cannot translate the ideas in his mind quickly. Perhaps he can translate the idea constituting the first clause (the first member) of the coordination, but he cannot soon translate the second idea which is to be the second member in the coordination. Because of this slow process in translating ideas the student tends to repeat one or more elements which have been mentioned in the first member. As seen in the examples above, the student tended to repeat "she" in the second member.

That they still find it difficult to use ellipsis, and that they tend to use complete coordinations, though ellipsis is possible and more common indicate that they have not been familiar with English - with English manner of expression or English sentence patterns. This also means that they lack reading English.

⁵⁴Note that most students still think in Indonesian, and they, therefore, have to translate their ideas from Indonesian into English.

C O N C L U S I O N

Now we have already had a detailed description of ellipsis, including problems of ellipsis found by Indonesian learners of English.

Ellipsis is the omission of words or parts of words which the hearer or reader may supply. Differently but fundamentally the same, Kellner defines ellipsis as a kind of compensation for the slowness of speech, a kind of economy in the use of linguistic elements. Thus one only uses words essential to express one's ideas, and leaves out words which the hearer or reader may supply.

Certainly ellipsis is used for the sake of convenience. In communication among intimate people, ellipsis is more frequently used. This means that the language used among intimate people is less formal. And the less formal the language is, the more pleasant the atmosphere becomes. And it is pleasantness, happiness, or convenience that people always hunt for.

Nothing surprising that when English is used as a means of communication, native speakers of English can use ellipsis without any difficulty. This is not the case with Indonesian learners of English. Indonesian learners of English find problems in using ellipsis in English, for the Indonesian language is not related to English.

If we study the problems of ellipsis found by the students, we can see that L1 interference is a factor which may bring about the problems. As a matter of fact, there is a more basic cause which bring about the problems. The basic cause is of course their ignorance of the rules concerning ellipsis in English. They therefore resort to Indonesian manner of expression or sentence patterns when

they find it difficult to use ellipsis in English. This, of course, results in sentences which are structurally Indonesian, but verbally English. And worse still, the resort to Indonesian manner of expression or sentence patterns may result in wrong or unacceptable English sentences. That is why L1 interference is also a factor which may bring about the problems.

That they still find it difficult to use ellipsis in English may also be caused by lack of reading English. Uneducated native speakers of English can speak English fluently and use ellipsis correctly, without any difficulty, though they do not know English grammar including the rules concerning Ellipsis. This is the case with uneducated native speakers of Javanese speaking Javanese. They do not know Javanese grammar, nor do they know the rules concerning Javanese ellipsis. Yet they can speak Javanese fluently, using ellipsis correctly, without any difficulty. Even children can speak their mother tongue fluently and use ellipsis correctly, though they do not know the grammar of, or the rules concerning ellipsis in, their mother tongue. All these facts prove that one's familiarity with a language enables one to use the language correctly, including using ellipsis. If one is already familiar with, for instance, English, one can "feel" whether an English sentence is common and acceptable or not, though one knows nothing about English grammar. If he is asked to tell the reason why he knows whether an English sentence is common and acceptable, he cannot tell it. Thus, that the students find it difficult to use ellipsis in English, and that they tend to use complete coordinations may also be caused by their

having not been familiar with English. And their having not been familiar with English is caused by lack of reading English.

Considering that, first, most students still find it difficult to use ellipsis in coordinations, second, the kind of the problems of ellipsis found by them, and third, the Indonesian language is not related to English, it is suggested that the teacher should, first of all, let the students know the rules concerning ellipsis in English, especially those they have not understood; second, he should also give them enough exercises on ellipsis; and third, to make them familiar with English manner of expression or sentence patterns, he should compel them to read English more. Note that the reading should be "a careful reading," that is to say, while they are reading English, they should pay great attention to English sentence patterns, and make some notes on them which are to be memorized and practised in speaking and writing.

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