

## Part 1: Clause Combining

### Different ways of clause combining:

- 1) The British government has to make an important decision. <sup>2)</sup> The British government has to decide whether or not to go for an early general election.
- 2) The British government must clearly decide on an early election: it has just won three convincing by-election victories in marginal seats. <sub>punctuation</sub>
- 3) The British government has just won three convincing by-election victories, and the Prime Minister has never been more popular in the polls.
- 4) Although his party is still 6 points behind the Opposition, the Prime Minister has never been more popular in the polls.
- 5) The British government has to decide whether or not to go for an early general election: it has just won three convincing by-election victories in marginal seats, and the Prime Minister has never been more popular in the polls, although his party is still 6 points behind the Opposition.

Whether or not:  
 → embedding clause

These sentence  
 try in the same  
 level (and, or)

Subclause  
 Subordination  
 to convince reader  
 not just informative

### Clause combining by means of non-finite -ing clauses:

- A solar chimney induced airflow through a building when solar radiation impinges on it, causing it to heat up relatively quickly (Harris & Helwig, 2007: 135)
- Using the participants' multiple responses to different time horizons and number of performers, we assessed the degree of deviance from the normative prescription and potential explanations for such deviance (Yechiam & Budescu, 2006: 177)
- This paper embodies this spirit and presents a novel design for recycling strategies that were incorporated in a new software tool, combining the use of emerging technologies dedicated to automobile shredder residue recycling (Ferraro & Amaral, 2006: 447-448).
- The dominant energy source in Norway is hydropower, representing 99% of the total electricity consumption (Furevik & Espedal, 2002: 196).

seems subject  
 To we...  
 make it as  
 us...  
 just us...  
 is order to

### In-class exercise: clause-combining by means of -ing forms

1. Art dealers labour under an uncatalogued overload, <sup>not knowing</sup> Dealers do not know what they have half the time
2. This device heats the air. <sup>causing it</sup> This device causes the air to rise.
3. During World War II, this theory was converted into practice. <sup>giving</sup> The practice gave rise to nuclear weapons and reactors.
4. <sup>us...)</sup> We used insights from previous research. We investigated the advantages of solar energy.
5. Wind energy is becoming increasingly more important. <sup>providing</sup> Wind energy provides millions of households with energy supplies.

### Foregrounding and backgrounding

- 1) Soon after the election a number of scandals occurred.
- 2) The government started to show signs of nervousness.

finite clause → verb is complete 1  
 non-finite clause → verb is not complete like ing form

## Event or consequence of event

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Topic: writing effective sentences

- 3) In mid-term a number of safe by-election seats were snapped up by the Opposition.
- 4) The prime minister had his work cut out to keep the cabinet together.

Soon after the election a number of scandals occurred, as a result of which the government started to show signs of nervousness. Then in mid-term a number of safe by-election seats were snapped up by the Opposition, and the prime minister had his work cut out to keep the cabinet together.

In-class exercise: foregrounding and backgrounding

- 1) The solar chimney is essentially a solar energy absorber with open top and bottom.
- which 2) It induces airflow through a building when solar radiation impinges on it.
- 3) The solar chimney is a relatively large item.
- 4) It also has a function as an architectural feature and may influence the appearance of the building.

Sentence length: rules of thumb

- 1) restrict yourself to a maximum of 2 newsworthy messages per sentence;
- 2) do not include more than two dependent clauses before the main clause
- 3) avoid long pieces of parenthetical information:  $\text{---} ( \text{---} ) \text{---}$  or  $\text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$

Examples of problems in sentence-length:

New drugs and vaccine alone are not enough to fight malaria. They have to be combined with improved health-care facilities, for example spraying campaigns, neighbourhood clean-ups to eliminate breeding places for the mosquito and better environmental management including biological controls, such as the use of fish that eat the mosquito in its egg and larval stages. Only then can malaria be fought successfully.

Solution

The first sentence is short ← New drugs and vaccine are not enough to fight malaria. They have to be combined with improved health-care facilities, for example spraying campaigns, and neighbourhood clean-ups to eliminate breeding places for the mosquito. Moreover, there is a need for better environmental management, including biological controls, such as the use of fish that eat the mosquito in its egg and larval stages. Only when such measures as these are taken can malaria be fought successfully.

Short sentences: rules of thumb

- 1) ensure that short sentences carry enough rhetorical force in the given context to merit standing on their own
- 2) if a particular message constitutes a single supporting statement and you do not wish to come back to it and develop it further, combine it with the message it supports.

> if a short sentence means it is important. if we ~~were~~ <sup>it is not</sup> and we <sup>do</sup> want to come back to it later just combine to other sentences.

~~A~~ This is in the same sentence

## Part 2: The order of information in the clause

### Familiarization

- 1) John recently gave me a present.
- 2) Recently John gave me a present.
- 3) John gave me a present recently. → when and give you (4,7,11,12)
- 4) John recently gave a present to me.
- 5) A present John gave me recently.
- 6) I was recently give a present by John. → (whoc)
- 7) A present I was recently given by John.
- 8) There was a present that John recently gave me.
- 9) It was just recently that John gave me a present. →
- 10) It was to me that John recently gave a present.
- 11) What John recently did was give me a present.
- 12) What John recently gave me was a present.

### Principles of information ordering

- 1) make lexical and syntactic choices to ensure that the initial information consist of accessible information and
- 2) place new information towards the end of the clause, preferably in final position.

### Principle of linear progression

The most crucial part of any football match is the first ten minutes. During this period the players have to get used to the conditions, the atmosphere and the opposition. The difficulties caused by the conditions in particular are often underestimated by even the most experienced of players. They come trotting onto the pitch thinking that their experience will put them in a position to deal with anything that the weather may bring. But a morning of rain can make any ground treacherously slippery. Consequently, one slip can be enough to go a goal behind in the first few minutes.

### Principle of continuous progression

A definition paragraph describes, explains, or defines an unfamiliar term by relating that which is unknown to that which is already known. It makes use of techniques of comparison, contrast, and synthesis, often in combination. More specifically, a definition paragraph may be developed by using comparison sentences that show that an unknown term is the same as or like some known term.

### Frontal overload

#### Compare

- 1) A number of strongly interrelated factors governing the distribution of wealth are involved here. First,...
- 2) What is involved here are a number of strongly interrelated factors governing the distribution of wealth.

#### More examples:

End is better too be more simpler  
End overload is better

Too much information in the beginning → Frontal overload

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Topic: writing effective sentences

- 1) Many Americans take it as a matter of course that by Western civilization the American way of life is meant (many Americans take it as a matter of fact that what is meant by Western civilization is the American way of life).
- 2) In 2473 patients submitted to level II ultrasound examination, with 288 fetuses malformation was detected (In 2473 patients submitted to level II ultrasound examination, 288 fetuses turned out to be malformed.)

The active versus the passive → move formal

Another threat is caused by expanding industries, which serve the economy well, but much damage and pollution are involved with these developments so that unprecedented number of several kinds of animals are facing extinction.

Another threat is caused by expanding industries, which serve the economy well, but which cause so much damage and pollution that unprecedented numbers of several kinds of animals are facing extinction.

Cleft constructions → build up argument ← It + Be + one focused constituent + that + clause

- 1) It is precisely the problems of verification that the authors neglected
- 2) It was not until much later that Smith came to the conclusion that his experimental results were meaningless.

In-class exercise: cleft constructions

It is imp. - - - That is imp. - - -

- 1) Adequate estimation of probability is important for risk assessment, risk communication and decision analysis: (Yechiam & Budescu, 2006: 177).
- 2) The prospect of global warming has induced architects and building engineers to search for ways of heating, cooling and ventilation buildings by passive means rather than energy-consuming mechanical devices (Harris & Helwig, 2007: 135).
- 3) Of all the methods to gain energy, wind farms are especially important in meeting the energy demands of developing countries where the infrastructure for power distribution is limited (Furevik & Espedal, 2002: 196).

It is especially wind farms that

Guide the reader by indirect questions

Pseudo-cleft constructions

The focus of element

- 1) What the government has failed to consider is the effect on old-age pensioners.
- 2) Why it is now time to act is because there are only twenty years of coal resources left.

Wh + Be + one focused element → pseudo-cleft

The th-wh construction

relationship & focus position

- 1) That was where Napoleon spent the rest of his days.
- 2) This is why there is great unwillingness among scientists to participate in government-funded research.

In-class exercise th-wh constructions:

- 1) That is why the dynamic approach is the best one to use for this type of research. It was therefore the method used in the present study

The existential construction

focus subject complement

- 1) There are two Chambers of Parliament in the Netherlands

There + to be + focused subject (+ complement)

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Topic: writing effective sentences

- 2) There is a reason why this method doesn't work.

Examples of existential in research papers:

- 1) In fact, as discussed by Sodhi et al. (2004), there are three primary reasons why disassembly is practiced:...(Ferrao & Amaral, 2006: 448).
- 2) However, there is a growing interest in the exploitation of wind energy (Furevik & Espedal, 2002: 196).

Discontinuous structures

- 1) The suggestion *was made* that the solution might be found in a replication of the experiment.
- 2) An assessment *was undertaken* of the effect of advertising material on underage drinkers.
- 3) The question *then arose* of what contribution the public should pay.