

## MEETING 9

### ELLIPTICAL CONSTRUCTION

#### A. Learning Objective

At the end of the lesson, the students are able to use the elliptical construction within sentences correctly.

#### B. Material Description

##### 1. Introduction to Elliptical Construction

Elliptical construction is a shorter form of sentence which some words have been omitted, but it retains the same meaning. On the other hand, the use of a simplified form of the sentence by combining two sentences into one sentence. The term “elliptical” comes from “ellipsis which indicates the omission of a word or words necessary to the grammatical competences of a clause or sentence. An elliptical construction delivers its meaning only if the context makes clear what the missing elements are. Here are some examples of when elliptical construction occur.

***After learning English, Erland is able to speak it fluently.***

“After learning English” can be made into complete form: *After Erland learned English*” or “*after Erland has learned English*”.

***After he takes a refresher course, he will be eligible for a raise.***

“After a refresher course, he will be eligible for a raise.”

***Broiled fish tastes better than boiled fish tastes.***

“Broiled fish tastes better than boiled fish.”

***I am hungry, and Betty is hungry too.***

“I am hungry, and Betty is too.”

##### 1. The Structure of Elliptical Construction

The structures of English elliptical construction are as follows:

**a. The Elliptic Structures in Positive Sentence/Statement.**

The structure of elliptical structure with “**too**” and “**so**” is used to combine two positive statements that have same predicate (including object and complement) can be arranged as follows:

**Subject + verb (be) . . . + and + subject + verb (be) . . . + too**

**Subject + verb (be) . . . + and + so + verb (be) . . . + subject**

Here are some of the examples:

- 1) Gerry is an Informatics Engineering student of Universitas Pamulang.  
Ghina is an Informatics Engineering student of Universitas Pamulang.
  - Gerry is Informatics Engineering student of Universitas Pamulang and Ghina is too.

**OR**

  - Gerry Informatics Engineering student of Universitas Pamulang and so is Ghina.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Subject + auxiliary verb . . . + and + subject + auxiliary verb + too**

**Subject + auxiliary verb . . . + and + so + auxiliary verb + subject**

- 2) Davin operates the computer. His friends operate the computer.
  - Davin operates the computer and his friends do too.

**OR**

  - Davin operates the computer and so do his friends.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Subject + verb-1 . . . + and + subject + do/does + too**

**Subject + verb-1 . . . + and + so + do/does + subject**

3) We booked the computer laboratory. Tom booked the computer laboratory.

- We booked the computer laboratory and Tom did to.

**OR**

- We booked the computer laboratory and so did Tom.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Subject + verb-2 . . . + and + subject + did + too**

**Subject + verb-2 . . . + and + so + did + subject**

4) The students can pass the TOEFL test. The lecturer can pass the TOEFL test.

- The students can pass the TOEFL test and the lecturer can too.

**OR**

- The students can pass the TOEFL test and so can the lecturer.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Subject + modal + verb-1 . . . + and + subject + modal + too**

**Subject + modal + verb-1 . . . + and + so + modal + subject**

#### **b. The Elliptic Structures in Negative Sentence/Statement.**

The structure of elliptical structure with “**either**” and “**neither**” is used to combine two negative statements that have same predicate (including object and complement) can be arranged as follows:

**Subject + verb (be) +not. . . + and + subject + verb (be) +not . . . + either**

**Subject + verb (be)+not . . . + and + neither + verb (be) . . . + subject**

Here are some of the examples:

1) Aldo is not a computer programmer. My brothers are not a computer programmer.

- Aldo is not a computer programmer and my brothers are not either.

**OR**

- Aldo is not a computer programmer and neither are my brothers.

Those can be depicted on these formulas

**Subject + aux. be +not. . . + and + subject + aux. be +not . . . + either**

**Subject + aux. be +not. . . + and + neither + aux. be + subject**

2) Donna does not update the windows of the computer.

Her friends do not update the windows of the computer.

- Donna does not update the windows of the computer and her friends do not either.

**OR**

- Donna does not update the windows of the computer and neither do her friends.

Those can be depicted on these formulas

**Subject + do/ does +not+ verb-1. . . + and + subject + do / does +not + either**

**Subject + do/ does +not+ verb-1. . . + and + neither + do / does +not+ subject**

3) Fatur did not play games in the class. Harry did not play games in the class.

- Fatur did not play games in the class and Harry did not either.

**OR**

- Fatur did not play games in the class and neither did Harry.

Those can be depicted on these formulas

**Subject + did + not + verb-1. . . + and + subject + did + not + either**

**Subject + did + not + verb-1. . . + and + neither + did + subject**

4) Dian could not repair the CPU. I could not repair the CPU.

➤ Dian could not repair the CPU and I could not either.

**OR**

➤ Dian could not repair the CPU and neither could I.

**Subject + modal + not + verb-1. . . + and + subject + modal + not + either**

**Subject + modal + not + verb-1. . . + and + neither + modal + subject**

### c. The Elliptic Structures in Contrary Sentence/Statement

The structure of elliptical structure with “**but**” is used to combine two contrary statements that have same predicate (including object and complement) can be arranged as follows:

**Positive statement, but + subject + verb (be) + not**

**Negative statement + but + subject + verb (be)**

Here are some of the examples:

1) They are the students of this class. I am not the student of this class.

➤ They are the students of this class, but I am not. (positive)

They are not the students of this class. I am the student of this class.

➤ They are not the students of this class, but I am. (negative)

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Positive statement, but + subject + auxiliary (be) + not**

**Negative statement, but + subject + auxiliary (be)**

2) We study English every day. She does not study English every day.

➤ We study English every day, but she does not.

We do not study English every day. She studies English every day.

➤ We do not English every day, but she does.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Positive statement, but + subject + do / does + not**

**Negative statement, but + subject + do / does**

3) They finished the computer training program. I did not the computer training program.

➤ They finished the computer training program, but I did not.

They didn't finish the computer training program. I finished the computer training program.

➤ They didn't finish the computer training program, but I did.

Those can be depicted on these formulas.

**Positive statement, but + subject + did + not**

**Negative statement, but + subject + did**

4) Lusi and Boy will join the TOEFL test next week. I will not join the TOEFL test next week.

➤ Lusi and Boy will join the TOEFL test next week, but I will not.

Lusi and Boy will not join the TOEFL test next week. I will join the TOEFL test next week.

➤ Lusi and Boy will not join the TOEFL test next week, but I will.

Those can be depicted on the se formulas.

**Positive statement, but + subject + modal + not**

**Negative statement, but + subject + modal**

### C. Exercises

#### Exercise 1

**Direction:** *Combine these sentences by using “so” or “neither”!*

1. Anna has a compile file of this subject. The captain has a compile file of this subject.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Tara is never absent the English class. I am never absent the English class.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. They rarely speak English in claas. Jhony rarely speaks English in class.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I studied hard for the previous exam. They studied hard for the previous exam.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. He can not copy the file into the flash disk. I can not copy the file into the flash disk.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Zizi is finishing the homework in the class. Her friends are finishing the homework in the class.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. The captain has submitted the assignment on time. We have submitted the assigment on time.  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. My father is not an engineer. I am not an engineer.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. I will back up the data before updating windows. You will back up the data before updating windows.

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10. The students may not use a dictionary during the exam. The lecturer may not use a dictionary during the exam.
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## Exercise 2

**Direction:** *Combine these sentences by using “too” or “either”!*

1. They were creating a computer program for this office. I was creating a computer program for this office.
- 
2. July could not complete the assignment on time. June could not complete the assignment on time.
- 
3. The technician should can repair my computer. My brother should can repair my computer.
- 
4. The programmers have not obtained the big data. The boss has not obtained the big data.
- 
5. Rindi has installed a new software for the e-learning. They have installed a new installed a new software for the e-learning.
- 
6. The students must arrange the elliptical construction. I must arrange the elliptical construction.
- 
7. They are not trainers of the practical class. You are not a trainer of practical class.
- 
8. Windi likes watching movie on the weekend. We like watching movie on the weekend.
- 
9. I want to be a great programmer in this office. She wants to be a great programmer in this office.
- 
10. My brother did not create a software for the exam. His friend did not create a



software for the exam.

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### Exercise 3

**Direction:** Fill in the blanks by using **so, too, either, neither, or but**.

1. They are not watching the movie, and \_\_\_\_\_ are the children.
2. We reunite with my high school friends once a year, \_\_\_\_\_ I do not.
3. She couldn't talk to the lecturer yesterday, and my colleague couldn't \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Deddy is going to work next week, and My brothers are \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Kanna got an A in English class, \_\_\_\_\_ Nola did not.
6. His computer was not broken, and \_\_\_\_\_ was your computer.
7. They doesn't buy a new laptop, \_\_\_\_\_ I do.
8. The students have submitted the tasks, and \_\_\_\_\_ so has the captain.
9. Your brother can not help you with your homework, \_\_\_\_\_ I can.
10. My sister will not buy such an outdated clothes, and I will not \_\_\_\_\_.
11. My father has not received the email, and my mother has not \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Joe shouldn't try to repair the printer himself, and you should not \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Those students are looking for the missing wallet, \_\_\_\_\_ Alani is not.
14. She really enjoys studying English, and \_\_\_\_\_ do we.
15. The lecturer has not uploaded the video in e-learning, and \_\_\_\_\_ have the students.

### Exercise 4

**Direction:** Make the elliptical construction from the following sentences.

1. We have returned the books to library, but she \_\_\_\_\_
2. The lecturer can deliver an English speech, and I \_\_\_\_\_
3. They will study hard for the next exam, and \_\_\_\_\_  
we.
4. Chika doesn't retake English course, and \_\_\_\_\_ her friends
5. Her duty is typing document, and we \_\_\_\_\_
6. The technician could not repair the keyboard , but we \_\_\_\_\_
7. Airlangga forgot to send his homework by email, and \_\_\_\_\_  
Mischa.
8. Ghaisa is a smart girl, and her sisters \_\_\_\_\_
9. Sabrina and I would't stay at campus any longer, and \_\_\_\_\_ they.

10. My friend has returned some books to library, but I \_\_\_\_\_

### Exercise 5

**Direction:** *Choose the best answers!*

1. Sherly never went to Maldives island, and Rendy did not either. This sentence means . . . .
  - d. Not only Sherly but also Rendy went to Maldives island.
  - e. Only Sherly went to Maldives island.
  - f. Sherly went to Maldives island, Rendy did not.
  - g. Both Sherly and Rendy did not go to Maldives island.
2. Budi is a computer programmer, and Tommy is too. This sentence means . . .
  - a. Both Budi and Tommy is a computer programmer.
  - b. Both Budi and Tommy are a computer programmer.
  - c. Budi is a computer programmer but Tommy is not either.
  - d. Budi is not a computer programmer and Tommy is too.
3. I am interested in learning how to instal the windows, but . . . .
  - a. my sister does not
  - b. my sister does
  - c. my sister is not
  - d. my sister is
4. “.....” Neither will she.
  - a. I will take a recourse class next semester?
  - b. Do I have to take a recourse class?
  - c. Nor will I take the recourse class next semester?
  - d. I won’t take recourse class next semester.
5. My sister doesn’t like playing games, and I don’t either. It means . . . .
  - a. Both I and my sister doesn’t like playing games.
  - b. I don’t like playing games and my sister likes.
  - c. My sister doesn’t like playing games but I do.
  - d. Neither I nor my sister doesn’t like playing games.

6. As far as I know that my father never smokes, and . . . .
- my brother never smokes too.
  - My brother neither smokes
  - My brother doesn't smoke too.
  - My brother doesn't either.
7. Bilqis went to college yesterday, but the captain did not.  
This sentence means . . . .
- Both Bilqis and the captain went to college yesterday
  - Neither Bilqis nor the captain went to college yesterday.
  - The captain didn't go to college yesterday, but Bilqis did.
  - The captain went to college yesterday, but Bilqis did not.
8. My friends were so tired after the game, but . . . .
- gamers were not
  - gamers did not
  - gamers are not
  - gamers is not
9. Cici can speak English well, and . . . .
- also my mother
  - but my mother can
  - my mother can too
  - Neither does my mother
10. Roxy doesn't like playing basketball, and Rudi doesn't either. It means . . . .
- Roxy doesn't like playing basketball, but Rudi does.
  - Roxy and Rudi never like playing basketball.
  - Only Roxy doesn't like playing football.
  - Roxy and Rudi doesn't like playing football.
11. Because of the rain, the English lecturer could not come on time, and . . . .
- Neither could not you
  - Neither could I
  - I could neither

- d. I could either
12. Many students do not join Physics exam, and the captain . . . .
- a. so does he
  - b. he too
  - c. neither he doesn't
  - d. he does not either
13. I will not cancel the TOEFL training, but he will cancel the TOEFL training.  
This sentence means . . . .
- a. Both he and I will cancel the TOEFL training.
  - b. Neither he nor I will cancel the TOEFL training.
  - c. He will cancel the TOEFL training, but I will not.
  - d. He will not cancel the TOEFL training, but I will.
14. Most students are able to finish English exam well, . . . .
- a. and so do I
  - b. and I am too
  - c. I don't neither
  - d. but I can
15. I think that Salsa will be interested in reading this novel, but , . . . .
- a. So does my sister
  - b. So will my sister
  - c. My sister won't
  - d. My sister is not
16. Did you know that Fajar updated the windows last night? Yeah, . . . .
- a. So I did
  - b. I do too
  - c. So do I
  - d. So did I
17. My laptop was broken, and . . . . hisa laptop.
- a. so was

- b. neither was
- c. so did
- d. also was

18. Rara : Have you finished our English assignment?"

Riri : " Not yet"

Rara : .....

- a. Neither have I
- b. I have too
- c. I don't either
- d. Neither am I

19. Yanu: Take a look! I have a new-cool jacket bought my sister, It suits me well.

Do you think so?

Zack : .....

- a. I think so
- b. I don't either
- c. I do too
- d. I don't think so.

20. The first plan didn't work perfectly, but the optional plan worked perfectly. This sentence means . . . .

- a. The first plan worked perfectly, but the optional plan didn't work.
- b. Neither the first plan nor the optional plan worked perfectly.
- c. The optional plan worked perfectly, but the first plan did not.
- d. Both the first plan and the optional plan worked perfectly.

### Exercise 6

**Direction:** *Create your own sentences by using positive, negative, and contrary statements in elliptical construction.*

**1. Positive statements using "too" and "so"**

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**2 Negative statements using “either” and “neither”**

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**3 Contrary statements using “but”**

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