**Sentence Combining Skills**

**--Using prepositions, Participles, gerunds & infinitives…**

Convert a sentence into prepositional phrase

1). They don’t meet people in person. They communicate with others on the Internet.

--Instead of meeting people in person, they communicate with others on the Internet.

Convert a sentence into prepositional phrase

2). We also want to have a better understanding of the world. The world is beyond the confines of our daily life.

--We also want to have a better understanding of the world beyond the confines of our daily life.

Convert a sentence into a phrase introduced by a participle

3). A university professor in Arizona was assigned to tutor underachieving college athletes. He recalls a runner who exercised daily.

-- A university professor in Arizona assigned to tutor underachieving college athletes recalls a runner who exercised daily.

Convert a sentence into a phrase introduced by a gerund

4). We study the accumulated wisdom of the ages. We thus improve our moral sense.

-- We study the accumulated wisdom of the ages, thus improving our moral sense.

Or: In studying the accumulated wisdom of the ages, we improve our moral sense.

Convert a sentence into an infinitive phrase

5). We had desire to keep the respect of a good name. The desire propelled me to become the first in our family to go to college.

-- The desire to keep the respect of a good name propelled me to become the first in our family to go to college.

Convert a sentence into a noun phrase

6). We are increasingly exposed to radiation. Hence the human body’s immune system will be weakened.

-- Increased exposure to radiation will weaken the human body’s immune system.

Convert a sentence using conjunctive phrase

7). Television is a source of information. It is also a means of entertainment.

-- Television is not only a source of information, but also a means of entertainment.

Convert a sentence into an appositive

8). We would probably find ways to solve the problems of our schools. Problems now seem impossible to overcome.

--We would probably find ways to solve the problems of our schools, problems now seemingly impossible to overcome.

Convert a sentence into an adjective phrase

9). Like other animals, we need a territory of our own. The territory should be large and comfortable enough for us to relax and restore our energies.

--Like other animals, we need a territory of our own large and comfortable enough for us to relax and restore our energies.

Convert a sentence into an attributive clause

10). Scientific achievement of this century is creating a wide-spread plague. The plague would soon destroy the entire world.

--Scientific achievement of this century is creating a wide-spread plague that would soon destroy the entire world.

Convert a sentence into an adverbial clause

11). The lecture reduces feedback to minimum. As a result, the lecturer can not judge how well students understand the material.

--The lecture reduces feedback to minimum, so that it can not judge how well students understand the material.

(Not so good if the lecturer doesn’t aim to reduce to the feedback.)

Convert a sentence into an adverb

12). We want equal treatment and equal opportunities, but we have a deep-rooted, illogical and romantic desire to be taken care of. This is in both an emotional aspect and a financial aspect.

--We want equal treatment and equal opportunities, but we have a deep-rooted, illogical and romantic desire to be taken care of emotionally and financially.