

link coordinate clauses are called 'coordinating conjunctions' or 'coordinators'. Sentences in which two or more main clauses are linked by coordinating conjunctions are called **compound sentences**.

Now, break up the following compound sentence into as many simple sentences as possible.

Example:

He had anticipated heavy traffic in the morning and left home early in order to be prepared for it, he was still very late and was disappointed with himself.

He had anticipated heavy traffic in the morning. He left home early. He was prepared for traffic. He was still late. He was disappointed with himself. (simple sentences)

I reached Delhi at seven, finished my work by six in the evening, took a train to Varanasi and then visited the important shrines there the next day and from there went by bus to Agra to meet my uncles and cousins but could not get a ticket back until two days later.

6. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles.

Consider, for example, ..... farm wife. She most often shares ..... work with her husband, but never receives ..... compensation for her efforts. When her husband dies, she has to pay ..... inheritance tax on ..... farm. .... result is often ..... forced sale of property that ..... woman had helped to develop in ..... first place.

## 7. Upper Division Love

Manohar Malgonkar

**Manohar Malgonkar** (1913- ), one of the best and most entertaining short-story writers of India, was educated at the University of Bombay. ①

In his youth, he was a good game hunter. After working for sometime as a manganese miner and on a tea plantation, he joined the Indian army and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In his novels and short stories, he has skilfully made use of his varied experiences in all these fields. His robust and sparkling humour blends with wit and sarcasm to make his stories quite interesting. *The Distant Drum, Combat of Shadows, The Princes, A Bend in the Ganges, Spy in the Amber, The Devil's Wind, A Teller of Tales, A Toast in Warm Wine and Other Stories, The Seahawk and the Battle of Kanhoji Angrey, Chatrapatis of Kolhapur, Shalimar, Cactus Country, In Uniform, Bombay Beware, Inside Goa and Rumble-Tumble* are some of his well-known works. He also wrote weekly columns for *The Statesman* and *Deccan Herald*. ②

In 'Upper Division Love', he mocks film-crazy youth who are carried away by the glamour of film actors. Their excessive admiration for film actors makes them behave in a ridiculous manner. The funny and reckless actions of a lower division clerk with 'upper division aspirations', who falls in love with the film actor Sunderbala, his dream-girl, make the story thoroughly enjoyable. ④

**Note:** Due to copyright reasons, we are unable to provide the original of the story. However, here is a brief summary. ⑤

### Summary of the story, 'Upper Division Love'

'Upper Division Love' presents the story of a lower division clerk who is fascinated with a film star called Sunderbala, and was extremely eager to meet her. He carried many photos of her to fulfil his fascination. There were three in his room and one in his wallet and he had not only watched every movie in which she acted, but he also knew every one of the songs she had sung on screen, to the minutest syllable and pause. The adoration he had for her was such that he

photo - 3R  
movie - 1W  
song  
pause & syllable



adoration

even went to the extent in one instance of giving up his place in the queue for a bus in order to be able to gaze at a poster of hers in front of Bolero theatre. When he met her for the first time in real life at a stationery counter of Buchumjee's Store, he was so spellbound that it was difficult for him to take his eyes off her. As usual, she was accompanied by two body guards, dressed in characteristic movie fashion with flimsy knee-length shirts along with churidhars. It was a touch of coincidence that while the narrator was standing at the counter of the stationery, she had to come to him and ask for gold-plated fountain-pens with encrusted tops. Spellbound as he was, the narrator could not bring himself to speak instantly and before he could, the shop assistant came forward to answer her and also ushered her to another counter where such jewelled fountain pens were kept. The bodyguards, of course, did not allow him to go anywhere near her. However, he had some luck in that she had forgotten her glasses on the counter near which he was standing and so he made use of this opportunity to go up to her and tell her that she had forgotten her glasses. She bestowed him with a smile, and said, 'Thank you.' However, the smile disappeared instantaneously. The narrator then noticed several passers-by crowding around the shop remarking that the film star Sunderbala was shopping there.

The smile that Sunderbala had bestowed on him made the narrator experience a kind of giddy happiness, and he realises that he, a lower division clerk, was in love with an 'upper division' film star. Though beyond his reach, the love of Sunderbala was his aspiration, and to that end, he would go to the (Super Gajraj Film Company entrance) and stand there, hoping to catch a glimpse of his love. Though he saw her a dozen times or more, she did not deign to even notice him or smile at him. She had her dark glasses on, and would drive past, not turning any way to notice anyone standing around. The studio had a signboard which said, 'NO VACANCY' and this meant that the narrator could not make his way in, whatever happened. The watchman standing at

the gate even took him by the hand on the first two days and showed him the signs rather pointedly. The narrator then presented him with a cigarette on both days, and the watchman stopped bothering him. In fact, as soon as the narrator appeared at the gate, he would put out his hand for the cigarette. He even went to the extent of informing the narrator that the hangers-on over there were all standing waiting for the role of extras in some film. They were all ruffians with paan-stained mouths and pencil moustaches.

The narrator was standing around one day, hoping for a glimpse of Sunderbala, but she did not turn up. He was feeling so disappointed about this when a large-built unshaved man with a huge stomach put his head out and shouted out to the narrator asking if he knew Hindi. He also asked him if he could drive a car. He then inspected him from head to foot and told him to come along. The narrator was offered ten rupees for every day that he was called in. He had to inform his office that he could not come, and the excuse that he gave was that he had fever and stomach pain. The office superintendent remarked that even when the Test matches were on, he had given the same excuse. However, the narrator did not care too much as he was getting a role in the same film that his favourite star, Sunderbala, was acting in. It was the role of a bandit who attacks Sunderbala in the middle of the forest. He had to leer and stare at Sunderbala with a handkerchief tied round his head, a big scar on his right cheek, and a large metal earring dangling from one ear. Though it was the role of a ruffian, he had the opportunity to be so close to his beloved Sunderbala. He had to reach for her necklace and pull it, as if he was taking it away. The narrator rehearsed the scene a number of times in his room, and had a smug feeling of satisfaction that he would even have been the envy of James Mason. During the shooting of the scene, the necklace did not snap as it was supposed to, as they had forgotten to 'doctor' it, and so there was an amusing incident of the narrator pulling and pulling to such

smug - excessive pride.



an extent to have the necklace snap that Sunderbala got very annoyed and screamed that he was trying to kill her. However, the big burly man patched up the confusion, and the next shot went off well.

But in the next take Ramakant, the hero of the movie, who was supposed to just give him a light tap on the chin, almost crashed his right fist into his chin, and the narrator just toppled down. Though he was only supposed to crumple up, the scene became very realistic with his reaction. Sunderbala then laughed and joked about it to Ramakant. But the contemptuous laugh of hers just killed all the love that he had for her.

Sunderbala's contempt for him made the narrator feel like quitting the job, except that the big burly man, Fatty as he was called, was so good to him and even raised his pay to twenty-five rupees, saying that he had done a bandit's role so well. He told the narrator that he could come to shoot the other scene four days later. Ramakant and Sunderbala laughed at the way his face had become with the slap. He felt like saying something equally nasty to them, but looking at the red swelling on her neck because of the necklace being pulled, he felt happy. That would take four days to heal too. This was the first and last attempt of the narrator in acting in a film.

The film, *Fulwali*, had, for its theme, the struggle of peasants against unfair landlords. The unfair landlord finally agrees to give his daughter in marriage to the hero, and that is where the narrator had to turn up in the role of a police inspector who arrests the hero and puts him in jail, looking forward to a brilliant court scene to follow. The narrator therefore had to dress himself smartly in uniform and the shooting was to take place outdoors, near a beautiful lake selected by Fatty. This was what is called 'location shooting'. Fatty's plans for the shooting were all very meticulously done. There was only very little time to get the big scene done before the rains started.

The narrator was waiting expectantly for the big scene and this last shot. He went to see his friend Santokh Singh, who was a very enthusiastic young man with a passion for motor cycles. The narrator explained the scheme of things to him and he offered some good technical advice. He said he would remove the silencer of the motor cycle. The narrator and he sat up late in the night, planning the revenge.

They were all taken to the 'location' on the appointed day. It took two hours to set up the cameras and the reflectors, etc. Ramakant and Sunderbala had arrived exceptionally early, but Fatty told them that they could not finish before four as he wanted to catch the light between two and four. The narrator discovered that they had come early only to complete the shooting and be able to leave in time for a party that evening. The love scene between Ramakant and Sunderbala was beginning to be shot. Two hundred yards away, the motor cycle with a Sikh rider went down the road with a loud sound. Fatty then cut the shot. Santokh Singh started the motor cycle during the shooting and Fatty got mad. However, there was no respite and Fatty finally decided to shoot the scene even when the motor cycle was making a loud noise.

By four o'clock, they were getting ready for the arrest scene with the narrator. Sunderbala was about to leave and Ramakant was talking with her about the evening's programme and about the charity show at the Bolero theatre. They were to go together, but the narrator knew what revenge he was planning. He went through the required scene very quietly but at the end of it, he drove off with the van and Ramakant and drove for an hour somewhere far away, and then for two hours lay down on the grass, read a story and smoked. Ramakant was helpless. The narrator bought a cardboard and red ink and wrote on it: DANGEROUS LUNATIC — KEEP AWAY. He then raced through the streets to Bolero theatre where the charity show was to happen. He parked the van there near the Minister's



car, and went away, but as he turned back, he noticed that people had already begun to gather around the van. Ramakant had not been able to keep the appointment with Sunderbala and take her to the show, and therefore the place beside the Minister was occupied by the actress Shilamati.

The narrator was now taken up with the new actress Shilamati and decides to pursue her.

The story thus has a message: the ridiculous fascination which the ordinary middle class men have for film stars and how they run their lives by this fascination.

### Glossary

**Note:** The words in the glossary are from the original story, and will help students understand the story.

wallet	: a small, flat leather case that you carry in your pocket, for holding paper money
poster	: placard for advertisement
flimsy	: delicate and plain
<i>churidar pyjamas</i>	: a tight trouser with creases near the ankle
bird of paradise	: a species of bird known for its colourful plumage (especially the male)
plumes	: large feathers
encrusted	: covered or coated with
whisk	: to take away quickly
barred	: obstructed, stopped
amber	: yellowish brown
glare glasses	: sun glasses
nimbly	: deftly, in an agile manner
crinkled	: having crinkles i.e., narrow wrinkles on the surface
craning	: stretching the neck like a crane
vantage	: a position that provides an advantage
heady	: causing intoxication
pin-ball	: a table game (gambling)
aspirations	: high ambition, desire

mermaids	: mythical sea creatures believed to be half woman and half fish
two-toned	: two-coloured
crick	: stiffness
<i>darban</i>	: gatekeeper
unceremoniously	: without any respect
fillum eshtra job	: an 'extra' job in film production
burly	: big and strong
paunch	: a fat belly
glower	: to look angrily
scowl	: (n) an angry look
khum on	: meaning come on
ruffianly	: violent and cruel
leer	: to look with ill-will at
tug	: pull
clenched	: closed tightly
scream	: to cry loudly
whirring	: buzzing (here, noise made by the camera)
heaved	: lifted, raised
scorching	: blazing or burning (here, referring to a remark)
doctor	: to falsify (here, make it easy to break)
hitch	: temporary stoppage
minions	: favourite servants
guffaw	: to laugh loudly
red welt	: red mark
zamindar	: a landowner
reform	: to change, to improve
garb	: dress or attire
Sam Browne belt	: a belt made usually of leather, with an attached strap going over the right shoulder. Generally a part of police or military uniform
hobnailed boots	: boots whose soles are protected by short nails with broad heads
din	: noise