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| **Ellipsis and Substitution: Overview** | |
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| **USE:**  FORM: | **Ellipsis** is the removal of parts of a sentence to avoid repetition. In the first type of ellipsis, the context makes it clear which words have been left out.  A: *When are you leaving?*  *B:* ***10 o’clock****. (I’m leaving at 10:00)*  *A: Are you coming to the party?*  *B:* ***Possibly****. (I am* ***possibly*** *coming to the party.)*  In the second type of ellipsis, words that form part of a grammatically predictable construction can be left out.  ***You have to do the laundry and*** *(you have to)* ***clean the bathroom****.*  ***Betty needs a large shirt and Barbara*** *(needs)* ***a small*** *(shirt).*  **Substitution** is when part of a sentence is left out and replaced by a word/words to show what has been omitted.  *A: Did you take out the garbage last night?*  *B:* ***Yes.*** *(“****Yes****” replaces “I took out the garbage last night”.)*  *Yes, I* ***did.***  *(“****did****” replaces “ took the garbage out last night”).*    *He invited me to a party on Saturday but I had to work* ***then****. (“****then”*** *replaces*  *“Saturday night”)*  **Ellipsis and substitution** are closely related and sometimes considered together*.* In this example, the auxiliary verb is used alone but nothing is added to indicate what is missing.  *I will take the test on Friday, and John* ***will*** *(take the test) too.*  With **modals** (will, would, can, could, etc.) the main verb can be left out.  *They* ***can’t*** *sing very well, but she* ***can*** *(sing well).*  When **have** or **be** are used as **auxiliaries,** the main verb can be left out.  *I* ***hadn’t*** *heard about it, but they* ***had*** *(heard about it).*  *He* ***isn’t*** *living here anymore, but Carol still* ***is*** *(living here).*  If there is no auxiliary verb, “**DO**” is substituted for the main verb.  *Victor loves pasta, and Barbara* ***does*** *too. (“****does”*** *replaces “ loves pasta”)*  *They liked the movie, and Steven* ***did*** *too. (“****did****” replaces “liked the movie”)* |
|  | Other parts of speech (nouns, pronouns, etc.) canalso be left out if the context makes it clear what is missing. (see **Ellipsis** and **Substitution** examples above) |
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| *Use the correct AUXILIARY to complete the sentence. Example: He likes liver with onions but I don’t.* |

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| 1. | Bill won’t drive a car with standard transmission but I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 2. | She can speak German and so I. |
| 3. | I have never been to Europe but my brother . |
| 4. | They have spoken to him but Mary . |
| 5. | Mr. Smith didn’t dance at the party but his wife . |
| 6. | She knows how to bake but her friend . |
| 7. | We would like to go to the beach but he . |
| 8. | Bruce’s car isn’t new but mine . |
| 9. | He doesn’t know the answer but she . |
| 10. | They love to dance and so I. |
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*Rewrite the following sentences, or answer the questions, leaving out or replacing unnecessary words.*

# A: Have you ever tried scuba diving?

B: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. You should eat healthy food and you should exercise regularly.

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1. (A: When is Todd going to start his new job?)

B: He is going to start his new job next Tuesday.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Lance likes rock music but Sally doesn’t like rock music.

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1. I can run faster than Sally can run.

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1. I ordered three cups of coffee, but you only gave me two cups of coffee.

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