

Test Your Grammar Skills

Understanding Ellipsis 1

Ellipsis occurs when we leave out unnecessary words from a sentence. Write each sentence again without ellipsis, and add numbers to show which kind of ellipsis was in each sentence:

	<u>No.</u>
1. Take a book if you need to. _____	
2. I've never been to Peru. _____	
3. The last science-fiction film I saw was the one with blue people in it. _____	
4. Talk later? OK? _____	
5. The agreement we reached was unacceptable. _____	
6. After reading the report, Jody concluded it'd been a waste of time for her. _____	
7. I didn't want to, but Jack forced me to attend the meeting. _____	
8. Wash hair, get dressed, eat breakfast, leave by 8. _____	
9. Tea? _____	
10. The Amazing Sombrero _____	
11. Dan saw a fox when out running. _____	
12. Find the car keys? _____	
13. "Bus gone?" "Yes. Just." _____	
14. Talks Fail _____	
15. The book I needed wasn't available. _____	

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Answers will vary. Sample answers:

	<u>No.</u>
1. Take a book if you need to. You can take a book if you need to take a book .	6, 4
2. I've never been to Peru. I have never been to Peru.	1
3. The last science-fiction film I saw was the one with blue people in it. The last science-fiction film that I saw was the science fiction film with the blue people in the science fiction film .	2, 5, 5
4. Talk later? OK? Can we talk later? Will that be OK?	6, 7
5. The agreement we reached was unacceptable. The agreement that we reached was unacceptable.	2
6. After reading the report, Jody concluded it'd been a waste of time for her. After Jody had spent time reading the report, Jody concluded that reading the report had been a waste of time for Jody .	3, 5, 1, 5
7. I didn't want to, but Jack forced me to attend the meeting. I did not want to attend the meeting , but Jack forced me to attend the meeting .	1, 4, 4
8. Wash hair, get dressed, eat breakfast, leave by 8. I must wash my hair, get dressed, then eat breakfast and leave by 8 o'clock .	11
9. Tea? Would you like a cup of tea, Natalie ?	7
10. The Amazing Sombrero The main character of the novel is called The Amazing Sombrero.	10
11. Dan saw a fox when out running. Dan saw a fox when Dan was out running.	5, 3
12. Find the car keys? Did you find the car keys?	8
13. "Bus gone?" "Yes. Just." "Has the bus gone?" "Yes, the bus has just gone ."	8, 7
14. Talks Fail Talks to find a new deal for the manager of City Football Club have failed.	10
15. The book I needed wasn't available. The book that I needed was not available.	2, 1