University of Batna 2/ Department of English/ Second-Year Classes Grammar Course/ Teacher: Dr. N. KISSOUM

The Structure of the English Sentence/ Practice

Exercise 1: Find the subject and the verb in the following clauses. Then decide if each clause is dependent or independent.

- 1. Dairying is concentrated in districts with reliable summer grass
- 2. Although it started out with a similar fauna and flora to New Caledonia and Australia
- 3. Scarcity creates the need for a system to allocate the available resource among some of its potential users
- 4. Banks, insurance companies, and investment companies can now enter one another's markets
- 5. When layoffs become inevitable
- 6. These obvious contamination problems have long been known

Exercise 2: Identify the following as phrases or clauses.

- 1. Trying to build up breeding herd numbers
- 2. The relationship between predator and prey
- 3. The development of technology allowed people to speed up evolutionary change
- 4. Because humans are long-lived and reproduce slowly

Exercise 3: Check whether the following are complete sentences.

- 1. The greatest danger that a species faces in a rapidly coevolving ecosystem
- 2. Diversity has become a strategic imperative for corporations
- 3. Her Maori name, Maata Mahupuku, inscribed on her headstone
- 4. As profits fell and the government reduced internal prices to realign with export prices
- 5. Taste, or personal food preference, is another strong determinant of demand
- 6. Implications for food and fibre marketing are many

Exercise 4: A. Underline the two independent clauses in the following sentences

1. Modern management techniques have been used with success in firms in the industrial sector, and there is scope for a greater transfer of these concepts, techniques and principles to the farm sector.1

2. We do not know where the first beachhead for the invasion was, but it is a fair guess that the narrow strait between Bali and Lombok was the first and most fundamental barrier to be breached.

3. Coal mining forms part of the relatively invisible history of Bannockburn, yet it was in some ways the backbone of the local economy.

4. Environmental politics may have a substantial policy focus to it, or it may be quite abstract and of little direct significance to policy.

B. Join the following pairs of sentences together to make compound sentences.

1. People have been conducting policy research for millennia. Policy studies emerged as a field of intellectual enquiry less than fifty years ago.

2. Problems do not just exist. They must be defined.

3. In the early 1870s there were large numbers of Chinese and European miners on the Bannockburn field. Their activities have proved difficult to trace in the physical remains in the landscape.

Exercise 5: Underline the independent clauses and double underline the dependent clauses in the following sentences.

1. Because it is so frequently misunderstood, the last point merits restatement.

2. One is restricted to a tiny patch of boulders and a rainforest relic on two islands, while the others are restricted to remnant areas on the North Island.

3. Although the [Lotto] win brought many nice things, it occasioned a period of transition that meant loss, change and much painful growth.

4. Some investors, who are known as **value investors**, invest in companies that have share prices close to or below the book value of the company.

Exercise 6: Mark the italicized finite clauses with 'F' and the italicized non-finite clauses with 'NF.'

1. Statistics Canada has found what many people have long suspected.

2. Officials were told that the missing fish could number as many as 1.2 million.

3. Of course, being an intellectual hockey player doesn't always help.

4. When people survive a heart attack, damage to the organ is often so great that they eventually suffer another attack and die.

5. Mr. Fuller, who spent fifteen days in jail awaiting trial, received the longest sentence given to a participant in the riot.

6. Emptying the mind before physical action will improve success in sports.

7. The chemical appears to increase serotonin levels in the brain, *taking away the compulsive desire to place a bet*.

8. If you want to find out what youth are doing, go deeper.

Exercise 7: Underline and give the function of the non-finite and verbless clauses in the following sentences.

1. My favourite thing to do is collecting actors' photographs.

2. You must learn to work hard and to deal with difficulties.

3. The long journey over, we relaxed in the warm sunshine.

4. He was a delightful companion, always cheerful and considerate.

- 5. Having been invited to speak, and then being told to keep silent, I shall never come here again as long as I live.
- 6. Standing here all day, I see many strange faces.
- 7. Standing here all day is extremely tiring.
- 8. While in the army, he learnt a great deal about electricity.
- 9. Not feeling very well, I decided to stay at home.
- 10. They pump waste into the water, killing all the fish.
- 11. Taken daily, vitamin pills can improve your health.
- 12. To turn down the invitation seems rude.
- 13. The important thing is not to panic.
- 14. Not very happy with the result, he said nothing to his parents.
- 15. Whether busy or not, you have to come to our party next Sunday.

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