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Ellipsis in Coordination

Hard | C1 | Advanced | Auxiliary verb | Clause | Comma | Conditional sentence | Conjunction | Coordination | Infinitive | Inversion | Modal verb | Negation | Phrase | Punctuation | Sentence | Verb | Passive voice | Verb tense | Perfect tense | Word order

1. Choose the correct option to complete this tense corporate boardroom email.

If the board of directors won't hold the CEO accountable, then the shareholders _____.

Select one.

A) must
B) must hold
C) must do
D) must have

2. Help the intergalactic food critic draft their review of a new cosmic restaurant. Select ALL the sentences that use ellipsis (omitting words) grammatically and correctly.

Select all that apply.

A) The head chef prepared the star-squid, and the apprentice, the meteor-mushrooms.
B) The head chef prepared, and the apprentice seasoned, the giant meteor-mushrooms.
C) The head chef has prepared the star-squid, and the apprentice has, the meteor-mushrooms.
D) The head chef is roasting the star-squid, and the apprentice has too.

3. Help the HR manager complete her humorous notes on the annual office bake-off. Choose the correct auxiliary verbs to complete the sentences, using ellipsis to avoid repeating the main verbs.

Sarah claimed she would bake a three-tier masterpiece, but she ultimately _____.

Michael's pie was completely devoured by the marketing team, and David's cookies _____ too.

The judges could have awarded a tie, and frankly they _____, given how close the final scores were.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1
A) didn't
B) hasn't
C) wasn't

Blank 2
A) were
B) did
C) had

Blank 3
A) should have
B) should
C) ought

4. Choose the correct word to complete the food critic's dramatic review of a dangerous dish.

A master chef can, and arguably _____, prepare the venomous fugu fish without endangering the guests.

Select one.

A) should
B) should prepare
C) should have
D) should be

5. Complete the spaceship captain's log entry. Choose the correct words for each gap to form natural, advanced sentences using coordinate ellipsis.

Commander Zog didn't understand the alien transmission, nor _____ his highly advanced translation matrix.

The forward shields are holding up perfectly against the asteroid storm, and the aft hull _____ too.

The hyperdrive needs to be repaired immediately, but I highly doubt the engineering team _____ right now.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** did
- **B)** has
- **C)** would

Blank 2

- **A)** is
- **B)** does
- **C)** has

Blank 3

- **A)** wants to
- **B)** wants
- **C)** does

6. Help the time traveler review her chaotic diary entries about fixing historical blunders. Select ALL the sentences where the omitted words result in a grammatically correct sentence.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I must have stepped on a butterfly and altered the course of history.
- **B)** I will travel to 1920, and my assistant, to 1930.
- **C)** I have packed the emergency rations, and my assistant has, the temporal maps.
- **D)** I was chased by a dinosaur, and my assistant did too.

7. Complete the theater director's frantic notes by selecting the options that correctly use **ellipsis** to avoid unnecessary repetition.

"Listen up, everyone! In the opening scene, the chorus will wear black, and the main characters _____.
The orchestra hasn't finished tuning their instruments, but they absolutely _____ before the curtain rises.
Finally, I want the spotlight on the hero, and _____ the villain!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** white
- **B)** will wear white
- **C)** are wearing white

Blank 2

- **A)** must
- **B)** must have
- **C)** must finish

Blank 3

- **A)** not on
- **B)** not to be on
- **C)** don't want it on

8. Read the police captain's furious report about two clumsy investigators. Select ALL the sentences that use ellipsis correctly.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Detective Miller hasn't contaminated the evidence, but Detective Smith certainly has.
- **B)** Miller was fired yesterday, and Smith will tomorrow.
- **C)** Miller wanted to interrogate the parrot, and Smith wanted to.
- **D)** Miller is dusting for prints, and Smith has too.

9. Help Detective Vance finish his official report on the bizarre museum heist. Select the correct auxiliary verbs to complete the parallel structures.

The mastermind has finally confessed to the heist, and so _____ his two accomplices.
Surprisingly, the museum director didn't suspect the curator, nor _____ the security chief.
The stolen diamonds were successfully recovered by our team, but the famous ruby _____.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have
- **B)** has
- **C)** did

Blank 2

- **A)** did
- **B)** had
- **C)** does

Blank 3

- **A)** was not
- **B)** did not
- **C)** has not

10. Help the medieval historian complete their account of the battle using the most elegant, grammatically concise phrasing.

King Arthur deployed his cavalry to the northern flank, and _____

Select one.

- **A)** Sir Lancelot, his archers to the southern ridge.
- **B)** Sir Lancelot deploying his archers to the southern ridge.
- **C)** Sir Lancelot did his archers to the southern ridge.
- **D)** Sir Lancelot to the southern ridge his archers.