

What is Advanced Ellipsis in French?

Worksheet

Ellipsis is the deliberate omission of words inferable from context — used in French for economy of language, emphasis, and rhetorical impact; appears in clauses, verb phrases, and nominal constructions.

Questions

1. 'Je veux une pomme et toi une poire.' Ellipsis omits:

- A) 'Je veux'
- B) 'une'
- C) 'et toi'
- D) Both first and second verbs

2. 'Pierre a écrit la lettre, pas Marie' omits:

- A) 'the letter'
- B) 'a écrit'
- C) 'not'
- D) the verb for Marie

3. Ellipsis in journalism: 'Un accident mortelle sur l'autoroute. Trois morts.' Omits:

- A) Location
- B) Subject + verb
- C) Number
- D) Time

4. Advanced ellipsis differs from omission because:

- A) It's the same thing
- B) It's deliberate and stylistic, not accidental
- C) It requires a dictionary
- D) It's only in poetry

5. Remove the ellipsis from: 'Paul a mangé trois gâteaux et Marie en a mangé deux.'

6. Create ellipsis from: 'Elle a lu le roman et son ami l'a lu aussi.'

7. Identify what is omitted: 'Vous préférez le café? Moi, le thé.'

8. Define: What is ellipsis?

9. Define: When is ellipsis used in French?

10. Define: Common ellipsis type: pronoun replacement?

Answer Key

1. A) 'Je veux' — 'Je veux' is omitted for the second clause; context makes it clear.
2. B) 'a écrit' — The verb 'a écrit' is omitted but understood after 'pas'.
3. B) Subject + verb — 'Il y a eu' or similar is omitted for conciseness and impact.
4. B) It's deliberate and stylistic, not accidental — Ellipsis is intentional and understood; mere omission creates confusion.
5. With ellipsis: Paul a mangé trois gâteaux et Marie en a mangé deux Full form: Paul a mangé trois gâteaux et Marie a mangé deux gâteaux
6. Full: Elle a lu le roman et son ami l'a lu aussi With ellipsis: Elle a lu le roman et son ami aussi
7. Context: implicit 'I prefer' (je préfère) Omitted: Verb + object (two instances) Full form: Vous préférez le café? Moi, je préfère le thé.
8. The deliberate omission of words that are clear from context or previous utterance.
9. For conciseness, rhythm, emphasis, and stylistic effect — especially in formal and literary writing.
10. Yes — 'en', 'y', and relative pronouns often replace full noun phrases.

Bounlu

All cards, step-by-step solutions and an AI tutor are in the Notek app.
Promy turns exam dates into automatic reminders.